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VOL. XIV.---NO. 10.

THE LIBERATOR

OUR COUNTRY IS THE WORLD---OUR COUNTRYMEN ARE ALL MANKIND.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1844.

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JAS. BROWN YERRINTON, Printer.

WHOLE NO. 687.

LEGISLATIVE.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

SENATE.

The Joint Special Committee, to whom was referred so much of the Message of His Excellency the Governor, as relates to Slavery; also, certain petitions of Jasper Stone and others; also, the resolutions of the State of South Carolina, recommending the annexation of Texas to the United States, have considered the same, and ask leave to make the following

REPORT:

These subjects have been connected together, because they all have one bearing, and that is, upon the institution of domestic slavery, as it now exists in a considerable part of the Union. The questions that grow out of this, are by far the most momentous of all that now agitate the country; and, when discussed, call for the exercise of the greatest forbearance and the most mature deliberation. It is not the wish of your Committee, in touching upon these, to add a particle to the irritation already existing, in both sections of the country, that which does and that which does not tolerate slavery within its borders. But they cannot understand the wisdom of a policy of fear, in this regard, when both the principles and the best interests of Massachusetts demand a contrary one. This State has already assumed a position, relative to that subject, which is believed to be perfectly sound, and yet perfectly respectful to the other States. And now there only remains the comparatively trifling duty of justifying and sustaining it by a consistent train of action.

It has been one of the most prevailing errors of the time, to suppose that the domestic slavery of the southern States was a matter purely of domestic concernment to those States, and that the citizens of the free States had no interest in it and no right even to talk about it. The slightest examination of the relations established between the States by the Federal Constitution, must show the fallacy of this idea; and the experience of the last twenty years only serves to dispel every shadow of doubt concerning it. When the great compromise in that instrument was made, it was based upon the hypothesis that the main end of the government of the Union was the perpetuation of the blessings of liberty. The toleration of slavery was considered to be the toleration of an exception to the rule, in its very nature temporary. But it has now become unequivocally certain, that the whole machinery of the general government has long been, continues to be, and bids fair hereafter to prove, the greatest instrument known, for the perpetuation of slavery in the United States, and that the doctrines of liberty are only tolerated when they come into no conflict with that end. In this way, the right of trial by jury—a right expressly secured to every citizen by the sixth article of Amendments to the Federal Constitution—was decisively set aside by an early act of Congress, granting a summary process of restitution before a magistrate in the free States, in cases where men were 'claimed' as fugitive slaves. In the same way, the right of addressing the Congress of the United States with petitions, has been practically denied to the citizens of the free States, notwithstanding the express reservation made to them of that right by the first amendment to the same Constitution. In the same way the right of citizenship, guaranteed by the second section of the fourth article, as a protection to the citizens of each State against adverse legislation in any of the rest, has been and is now deliberately violated, as it respects some citizens of the free States, in most, if not all of the slave States. In the same way the laws of the United States, guarding the secrecy of private correspondence in the post office—a common property of all the States—have been wantonly set aside. In the same way has the chief of that very post-office department—an officer of the general government—seen the crime committed, and refused to do his duty in proceeding against the offenders. In the same way has the policy of the country, both foreign and domestic, been made not only once, but continually to bend to the purpose of maintaining slavery. And yet, after all this, there are persons yet to be found, gravely to affirm that the citizens of the free States have nothing to do with it; that it is a local matter, affecting only the people who live within the region where it is tolerated. The same persons, had they then been living, would probably have reproved that country gentleman, John Hampden, because he undertook to interfere with that local matter on the seaboard—King Charles's care of his ships—by refusing his supplies to their support, and they would have censured those citizens of Boston who once ventured to interfere with the East India Company's tea. There are people in every community so fond of the quiet and dispatch of business, that they look with no favor upon the slightest interruption to it, however well founded the reasons for it may ultimately appear. Such individuals have always wondered what objection could reasonably be found to a rule so expeditious of business as that known to fame as the 21st of the House of Representatives at Washington. The same would probably have equally wondered, had they witnessed the pertinacity of Martin Luther in resisting the business-loving propensities of the pontiff at Rome.

Massachusetts has not maintained any similar doctrines. Massachusetts has repeatedly declared, that the bearing of slavery upon the principles declared sacred by the Constitution of the United States is of consequence to her. On this point there is also great diversity of sentiment among her citizens. The ordinary party distinctions vanish in connection with it. The wish of a very large majority is, that the separation of interest in slavery, which has been maintained to exist, but which does not now exist, should be made to exist as soon as possible. That wish was expressed with perfect unanimity upon the passage of a resolution through both branches of the Legislature at its last session, which resolution proposed an amendment to the Federal Constitution, designed to effect the object. The same wish will lead them in no particular to sanction any course, calculated directly or indirectly to defeat the same object. In this point of view, it is that your Committee look with no favor upon the first prayer of the petitions which have been referred to them for their consideration. That prayer is, that an amendment be proposed to the Constitution of the United States, in the following words:

'No State shall tolerate slavery within its limits, or suffer any person, under its jurisdiction, to be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law.'

Such an amendment would, in the opinion of your Committee, imply a disposition, on the part of Massachusetts, to dictate to her sister States, in matters exclusively appertaining to those States. It would be an attempt to interfere with their internal economy, which could not be justified, either by the spirit of the Constitution itself, or by the theory of republican government. It is true that there is no express prohibition of the proposal of such an amendment. The power may exist to recommend any change, however great, in the organic features of the Federal government, and yet it may not be proper in many cases so to do. The people of Massachusetts claim for themselves, in the fourth article of the Bill of Rights, prefixed to their own Constitution, the exclusive right of establishing the laws which shall govern them. The powers which they do not expressly delegate, they reserve in their own hands. Least of all would they consent, that by virtue of the discretion of the citizens of other States wholly without their jurisdiction, their domestic institutions should be altered or overturned without their own consent. The same right which they claim for themselves, they willingly acknowledge to belong to their neighbors. Neither will they seek to impose conditions, even through forms opened by the Constitution, which they would not consent to receive if offered to themselves. The right to abolish slavery in the States in which it is established, belongs exclusively to the people inhabiting those States. If that desirable event ever shall come, it must come through their voluntary act. Their convictions and not the threat of strangers to their laws must be their guide. Further than to wish them well, Massachusetts seeks to take no part. Even her regard for the purest abstract principles will not carry her farther. However she may regret the errors of doctrine, which lead so many of her sister States to exhibit daily and hourly, what appears to her to be a palpable contradiction to the principles proclaimed in the great Charter of our common liberties, she must remain content at this time, with the congratulation of His Excellency, 'that she has done all that lay in her power, within the legitimate sphere of her action, to make those principles something more than a name.

But whilst your Committee, for the reasons which have been stated, deem it utterly inexpedient to recommend any action whatever, having for its object the regulation of the domestic institutions of other States, they desire again to affirm the soundness of the principle which led the General Court of last, and also that of the present year, to propose a measure calculated to deprive the southern States which contain slaves, of a power over the people of Massachusetts, which they acquire through the concession made in the Constitution, of representation of their property in man. Whilst your Committee have no desire to do anything, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the local law of those States upon which the relation of master and servant is there founded, they are equally unwilling to leave any act undone which shall separate the people of this State, not only from a share of responsibility incurred by sustaining that relation, but also from suffering in their own persons the evil effects of the recognition of it in the Federal Constitution. They feel that the representation granted by that instrument to property is at war with the doctrines most generally approved in the free States. Most especially do they object to it when the property consists of their fellow men. They feel, moreover, that this representation of property, equally abhorrent to their principles and to their feelings, has been found to weigh with peculiar severity upon the industry of the citizens of the free States, giving, as it does, an undue preponderance to a system of policy devised to perpetuate the power complained of. They also feel, that what was called a compromise, when this power was conceded, has not proved so in practice, the consideration for which this great power was given, the right to make the property in man contribute by taxation to the support of the common government, not having been realized. As a consequence of these feelings, the State proposes a surrender on both sides of the terms of compromise,—a simple cancellation of this part of the common bond. And as a further inducement to the acceptance of this proposal, it holds forth, as ensuing from it, the very total separation of the free States from all concern with slavery, which it has always been the desire of the friends of that institution should take place, but which never can take place so long as it wields so much power in the general government as it does now.

The representatives of a people who wish to mean what they say, when they affirm all men born free and equal, hold their sessions in a district of country in which the inequality among men, from their birth to their grave, is declared by laws which hold their place on the statute book through their act. Year after year have they sanctioned, negatively, to say the least, the reproach that the clank of the chains which bind innocent men to servitude for life is often within their hearing, and that though they have the power, they will not tear them off. Year after year do they suffer to be the law of the land in which they live, that men shall be presumed to be slaves, and sold to the highest bidder, after imprisonment, if they cannot prove their freedom. With all the treasures of the Union under their control, they knowingly suffer men, acknowledged to be free, to be sold into slavery for life, because they are unable to pay the paltry jail fees of an unjust imprisonment. And what is it, your committee would respectfully ask, that binds them thus hand and foot, without power to sweep the barbarous system from the land? Is it a denial of its existence, or a doubt as to its character, or a disposition to palliate or excuse its horrors? No, indeed. The cause is to be found in the overbearing influence of the representation of the masters of slaves, and the weight they possess through the acknowledgment of their property in man. These masters will never consent to an act of the plainest justice which hazards, or which even appears to hazard, the tenure by which they hold their property at home. They cast twenty-two votes on account of that property in the House of Representatives. They cast twenty-two votes on account of that property in the Electoral Colleges which make the President of the United States. The votes of the masters are important to every political party that seeks to administer the affairs of the country. Can it then be wondered at, if the principles of liberty within the ten miles square are forgotten in the contention to secure those votes? Yet we are gravely told that not withstanding this proof of the power which slavery exercises in the affairs of the Union, the citizens of the free States have nothing to do with it.

The truth is, that not a measure is proposed in Congress, nor acted upon by the Executive of the Union, and hardly a single man is nominated to office, without some reference to the effect it or he may have upon the predominance of the slave interest in the Union. If a project is believed to be likely to promote the extension of slave representation, it is pressed with zeal, in which members of both the great parties from the free States vie with each other. If, on the contrary, it is believed to be adverse, it is at once damned with a bad name, from which the members from the free States seek very faintly to relieve it. Are the territories of Iowa and Wisconsin filling up with a free white population in so rapid a manner as to threaten the admission of two more free States into the Union, not a whisper is heard about it so long as Florida lingers in the rear. And in order to accelerate her pace, the lands of the Union are lavished with a prodigal hand to all who shall pretend to ask them on the ground of rendering a sort of feudal service to expel an enemy that no longer exists there. These evils are great, but they are unavoidable just as long as the representation of slave property can be sustained. Let that be once cut off, and they will cure themselves.

There is another view of the subject which will present itself, without any doubt, to the minds of the people in the free States. The concession of a right of representation of property in man, is a direct inducement to the extension and perpetration of the system of domestic slavery. As if it were not enough to promote the growth of the number of slaves that the pecuniary interests of the white master should be concerned in it, the United States concede to him a new share of political power for every slave that he can add to the number already existing. For the continuance of this, the citizens of the free States must hold themselves daily and hourly responsible. They now hold forth a premium for the spread of the system, instead of endeavoring to restrain it within the limit where it now prevails. But the adoption of an amendment which would confine representation only to the free, would produce an effect directly the reverse of that already described. It would promote the growth of the free population from the accession of political strength which it would give, and be likely to substitute the enterprise of an active and independent race of responsible beings, conscious of the position which they occupy as voters in the State, for the lethargic insensibility of a degraded people. And thus would *all* the institutions of the United States come by degrees to coincide with the principles declared to lie at the foundation of their political organization.

But the strongest recommendation of the proposed change, is yet to come, in considering the subject referred to your committee of the resolutions of South Carolina, recommending the annexation of Texas to the Union. This scheme is still seriously agitated, and will continue to be agitated just so long as the measure will be deemed likely to increase the weight of the slave representation, and no longer. It is a project which, pressed as it is in the particular quarter where we see it, can have no other object than the perpetuation over the Union of the power acquired through the representation of property in man. In any other light the acquisition of a new and rich territory like Texas, would appear to be fatal to the cultivation of much of the exhausted lands of Carolina. It is the prospect which it affords of counteracting the effect of an increase of free States in the regions of the northwest, which reconciles the people of that State to witnessing its decline. Without the acquisition of Texas there might be a hope cherished in the bosoms of the citizens of the free States, that in the mere course of time the slave representation would so far decline, relatively to them, as to cease to be formidable. And your committee will go so far as to admit that but for the danger of this event, it would be safe for Massachusetts to await the slow but sure developments of time, without seeking to change any feature of the Constitution of the United States. But when it is openly avowed that the gaining of this great territory is to be followed by the admission of nine or ten States into the Union, which shall tolerate and encourage the spread of the domestic institution, when it becomes glaringly manifest, on a review of the foreign policy of this government for many years back, that this purpose has actuated the Executive Magistrate of the Union to put all the force of his office into action, to bring about the desired result, when it remains still doubtful how far the peaceful relations with a neighboring State may be preserved by reason of the movements making to effect this object, it does become of consequence to desire some mode by which the evil that threatens the country may be remedied. There would be no way so effectual to cut off all inducements to further action, in the opinion of your committee, as the refusal by the requisite number of States to acknowledge, for the future, the representation of property in slaves.

The plan to annex Texas to the Union, is by no means a new one. Nearly twenty years ago, at a time when that country was comparatively a desert, the idea of acquiring it was pressed in the remote newspapers of the West, by a distinguished Senator from the State of Missouri, who has been long known as one of the firmest and boldest advocates which the slave power has ever yet had in America. Upon the accession of General Jackson to the Presidency, the same scheme was considered as likely to form one of the leading objects of his administration. Negotiation was systematically entered into with the authorities in Mexico, to which country Texas was then considered to belong, for the cession of the territory to the United States at the price of four millions of dollars belonging to the people of the Union. There is good reason to believe that even more money would have been offered to obtain it, had there been a prospect of success. But the party adverse to the concession, obtained the ascendency in Mexico, and all hope of gaining the point by negotiation, became faint. It was then that the project appears to have been conceived in the south-western States of effecting the purpose in a different way. An individual who had represented one of the districts of Tennessee in the Congress of the United States, and who had also been made Governor of that State, the same person who is now President of the republic of Texas, declared his intention of going over to settle within the jurisdiction of Mexico. He probably did take the oath of allegiance required by the laws of that country, and became a citizen of Texas, one of its dependencies. Numbers of citizens of the United States followed this example of General Houston. The population increased in Texas, and with it increased, not the disposition to respect the oaths of allegiance, but the determination to break them. The standard of revolt was soon openly raised. The lone star of Texas, which affected to borrow all its brilliancy from the self-evident truths of the Declaration of our Independence, became the symbol of the restoration of domestic slavery over a land where it had been already abolished. Those who had the words of liberty on their lips, were at the same time preparing a form of government which provided not merely that there should be slavery, but that it should be beyond the power of the Legislature to abolish it. This last step was not, however, taken until sometime afterward, when success had converted rebellion into revolution.

There was then a two-fold policy going on during the period extending from the years 1829 to 1837. A policy, by which on the one hand, the government of Mexico was pressed by the Executive of the United States to cede in negotiation the territory of Texas for a sum of money, and on the other, measures were taking to tear off that same territory by means of domestic strife excited, if not wholly created, by emigrants from the western States of the Union. The spirit of resistance of almost any other government but that of Mexico, would have been completely overcome by this ingenious operation. On one side, the inducement offered by a large sum of money—on the other, the great probability of a costly war, with a determination by no means certain to be successful, might not unreasonably be supposed sufficient to overcome the tenacity of any foreign power. It is not clear to what extent the urgency of the representative of the United States in Mexico, Mr. Butler, was carried—but there is reason to believe, from some intimations thrown out by the Secretary of State in one of the despatches addressed to him, and since printed, that means of an equivocal character were resorted to, though not with the privity of the Executive, to bring about the desired result. None of the devices, (whether honest or otherwise, your committee will not undertake to pronounce,) proved successful. The Spanish pride of the Mexican got the victory over his avarice. The war went on between the mother country and the revolted territory, until the battle of San Jacinto decided the result. And then a new scene of operations opened, which came more directly within the observation of the citizens of the free States.

The policy of the slaveholding interest in the Union, now became somewhat different from what it had been. Mexico was no longer to be solicited, but threatened, whilst every arrangement was to be made to fix the dismemberment of Texas irrevocably. To this end her independence was to be recognized by the Congress of the United States, and this was effected in a mode quite consistent with the whole train of operations that have been described. On the 22d of December, 1836, the President sent a special message to the two houses of Congress, on the subject of Texas, in which he recommended that the United States should stand aloof and maintain a position of neutrality in the quarrel. Two weeks later, another message came, complaining of Mexico, and requesting authority to dictate to that power from the deck of the American vessels of war on her coast. A few weeks elapsed, and just at the close of the session of Congress, an amendment was slipped into the annual appropriation bill, which made a provision for a minister to Texas whenever it should please the President to see fit not to continue to be neutral. There had been no material change in the position of the contending parties since the 22d of December. Yet it was only a day or two after the appropriation referred to passed, that the President discovered neutrality to be no longer a virtue. He forthwith nominated to the Senate a diplomatic agent to Texas, and that body with a good will which is rarely wanting where the interests of slave representation are concerned, proclaimed to the world that the time had arrived when the imported citizens of the United States had succeeded in converting themselves into independent citizens of the new republic of Texas.

A great step appeared then to have been gained. The people of the free States had thus been made to witness the transition of Texas from a revolted district to an independent community, without much wincing. It was hoped that the next transformation would be managed with equal ease, and the independent community would merge itself into the society of States possessing the right, under the federal Constitution, of a large representation of their property in slaves. And thus this society, guided by one common interest, would obtain forever the power of perpetuating their control over the free principles of the Constitution. Unfortunately for this well-laid plan, the master-spirit had been forced into retirement. Mr. Van Buren came into power as President of the United States, without the power over the popular mind and the popular heart which his predecessor wielded. But five months were suffered to elapse before a proposition from Texas was submitted in form to the government at Washington, by the Texan minister, 'to unite the two people under one and the same government.' It is due to Mr. Van Buren to say, that he immediately declined treating upon any such proposition. He did so on the ground that the adoption of any such measure by the United States, whilst Mexico continued to refuse to acknowledge the independence of Texas, might be considered by that power as tantamount to a declaration of war. And this ground, it should be observed, has been deliberately taken by Mexico itself, in her communications made to the government at Washington, during the very last summer of 1843. It has had the effect, up to the present time, of discouraging the efforts of the friends of Texas to secure the annexation which they desire.

Yet it must not be supposed that the purpose is either changed or abandoned. There are persons in the free States, who are always willing to believe there is no danger from any measure, until the time arrives when the event and their conviction of their error come simultaneously. The Legislature of Texas, after several years of professions of independence, has now again taken off the veil, and openly advocates a union with us; and their movement has met with a sympathetic action in the whole chain of the south-western States. One of the representatives of the State of Georgia, in the Congress of the United States, has already brought forward the proposition in the lower branch, and there can be no reasonable doubt that it meets with more or less of favor, both in the Executive and Legislative departments of the government. The motive now is to sustain the right of representation of property in man, which the apportionment, under the census of 1840, shows to be declining. It is idle to suppose that this issue can be met with indifference or silence. The result may be the success of the scheme through some compromise or other, among the friends of various candidates for the Presidency. Your Committee desire not to be understood as referring to any state of things actually existing, so much as to what may be supposed likely to take place at some future moment. It is wise, therefore, to take strong ground at once—to endeavor to remove the motive for pressing the project, by abolishing the right of representation of property in man; and if unsuccessful in this, to assume the position that the execution of the project of the annexation of Texas, would be a palpable violation of all the conditions of that instrument, only one of which Massachusetts desires in a constitutional manner to annul.

Happily it does sometimes occur, that those most eager in the pursuit of evil designs, in their very zeal adopt means which ultimately prove the most serious obstacles to their success. So long as Texas remained a dependency on the government of Mexico, there was a possibility that a cession by Mexico of that country to the United States could be made, consistently with the somewhat violent construction which had been already placed upon the Constitution by President Jefferson, in the case of Louisiana, and which time, and the assent of the people of the United States, had sanctioned. But the solemn and public declaration of the United States, acknowledging Texas to be an independent State, has entirely changed the aspect of the case. Texas is no longer a country which can be ceded from hand to hand by virtue of a piece of parchment. Texas professes to have a form of government of her own, which her citizens have deliberately entered into a compact to establish. And the people of the United States have entered into a compact of the same nature in their Constitution. It is not in the power of either government that has been thus constituted, to enter into any new compact between the two, which virtually sets aside the old ones. If this is to be done, it can be done only by a new appeal to the people of both countries, by a new convention, and by a new Constitution. If it be within the power of the legislative department of the federal government by a simple law to declare the U. States annexed to Texas, it is equally within its power to declare them annexed to any other independent country on the face of the globe. Your Committee would respectfully inquire where such an enormous grant of power can be found in any part of the Constitution? Did the State of Massachusetts ever imagine that, in the seventeen clauses of the eighth section of the first article, which distinctly enumerate the powers given by her people as well as the people of the other States to that legislative department, there could be found a shadow of right to introduce new and independent nations into the confederacy? Your Committee confidently challenge a reply. They maintain, then, that an attempt on the part of the Congress of the United States, aided by the executive, to introduce Texas into the Union by force of a simple legislative act, should be regarded as null and void in its effect upon the States of the Union. And the perseverance in executing such an attempt, by using the forces of the Union, must be regarded as equivalent to a deliberate purpose of overturning the Constitution, and building on its ruins the perpetuity of the institution of domestic slavery in the land.

The 'union of the two people,' to use the words of the Texan proposition, 'under one and the same government,' can take place then only by a dissolution of the two separate forms of government which existed prior to that union. That can no longer be regarded as the Constitution of the United States, which becomes the Constitution of the United States and Texas. The people of neither country have sanctioned any such compound interest as this would be. Their conventions neither formed it nor ratified it. The case was never contemplated in 1788. There is an obvious necessity for resorting to the primary source of power for a new grant. And although the people of the several States might be content to continue the forms of the Union for an indefinite time after so deliberate a violation of the terms of the compact had been perpetrated, as the admission into it of a foreign State, there can be no question that their obligation so to do would have become, by that act alone, utterly void.

Your Committee are therefore of opinion, that the only proper method of securing the annexation of Texas to the United States, is by an appeal to the people of both countries, either through conventions, or through amendment to the existing Constitutions. In these forms the people of Massachusetts are, in their belief, prepared calmly and deliberately to meet the question. In these forms, they will not show an utter repugnance to the measure itself. But it must be accompanied with a condition, and that is, the abolition of all right of representation of property in man, if not, indeed, that of the institution of slavery itself. On this point, it is believed, there will be little or no division of opinion among her people. However much they may differ upon the ordinary topics of legislation and government, upon this they are united. Reproaches will not terrify, or ridicule deter them. If their attachment to the abstract principles of human liberty bring them again into difficulty, they will have the consolation of remembering that, as it is not the first time that this has happened to them, so also they may hope that they will once more come out of the trial with honor and success.

Upon consideration of the several matters referred to them, your Committee will conclude by stating, first, as to the petitions referred to them, that they offered to the petitioners a hearing upon the points specified in their prayer, but none of them, so far as your Committee could learn, were desirous to avail themselves of the opportunity. The Committee are not aware that there are now any reasons for legislation upon questions of a domestic character, involving distinctions among citizens on account of color, unless the law respecting the enrolment of the militia be an exception, the consideration of which has already been referred to another Committee. Your Committee therefore report, that it is inexpedient to legislate upon the subjects prayed for in the said petition. Secondly, as to the resolutions of South Carolina, recommending the annexation of Texas, they recommend the passage of the following resolves:

[These resolutions, which were passed unanimously, were published in the Liberator last week.]

By order of the Committee:
CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, *Chairman.*

From the N. Y. Tribune.

Congress.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Feb. 21.

The House have been engaged with the question of rules during the entire day—considerable interest having been elicited by an attempt finally to dispose of the question and decide upon the continuance or non-continuance of the 21st rule. The majority, however, (as appears below,) choose still to keep the question in agitation before the country, and seem quite unprepared to *act*.

Mr. Droomgoole withdrew the motion, so long under discussion, to recommit Mr. Adams' report of rules, and moved to amend the same by substituting for them, except the first thirteen, a set of rules which he had prepared by modification of the old rules of the House. The 21st rule is included, slightly modified, providing for the exclusion of all memorials, petitions or other papers, praying for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia or any State or territory, *or for the interference of Congress in any way with the transfer of slaves from or to any territory of the U. S. in which slavery is authorized by law.* (The provision in *italics* being an addition to the old rule.) It also provides (to cover similar cases to that of the 'protest') that it shall not be in order under color of amendment to endeavor to get upon the journal what had previously been refused entry by the House, that propositions which are rejected, *even if by yeas and nays*, shall not be entered (in full.) There are various other changes from the former rules.

Mr. J. Campbell, of S. C. suggested a further modification of the 21st rule, so as to exclude petitions for the dissolution of the Union.

Mr. Droomgoole declined to accept it at present. He moved the printing of the amendment, and the postponement of the question till Tuesday.

Unwillingness seemed to be manifest on all sides of the House to postpone. Mr. Schenck, after brief remarks, in which he declared himself decidedly opposed to the 21st rule in any form, its tendency being to create abolitionists, a false issue being raised upon it—referred to the protracted and repeated debates upon it, not only for months of this session, but for years previously, while other questions of vast importance were allowed but limited discussion, or were crowded off entirely in consequence of this and other useless discussions, moved the previous question. He desired to give the majority an opportunity to show whether they were in reality as anxious to proceed to the business of the nation as they professed to be, or whether from ulterior considerations they still desired to keep the question open.

Mr. S. withdrew the demand for the previous question for a moment, on pledge of its renewal by Mr. Holmes. He thought it was time for action, and he called upon all—northern 'Democrats' or southern Whigs—to come out and show their hands. The South would then know how to act. His doctrine was, that the right of petition existed, but it ceased when it became a *crime*. He wanted the question brought to an issue. It was nothing more than whether the abolitionists, like the *amis des noirs* (the friends of the blacks) in Paris, with Brissot at their head, (pointing to Mr. Adams,) should make the South a Continental Hayti. He renewed the demand for the previous question.

Mr. Steenrod, the hour having nearly expired, moved to suspend the rules during the day for this subject; carried: Yeas 142, Nays 36. He then moved to lay the whole subject on the table. A call of the House was had, and, after closing the doors and receiving excuses—seven only being absent and unexcused—was suspended. The House then *refused to lay on the table:* Nays 112, Yeas 82.

The question was taken on seconding the demand for the previous question, and lost, (the Whigs almost without exception voting therefor)—Ayes 69, Noes 90.

The motion to postpone was also lost: Yeas 88, Nays 102.

Mr. Cave Johnson then moved as a substitute for the report and amendment, a resolution to re-adopt the rules of the last Congress except the 25th (known as the 21st) and in lieu thereof a rule to receive and immediately lay on the table, without debate, abolition petitions.

The printing of both amendments was ordered after some debate, in which Mr. Adams referred to the report of Mr. Wise (signed also by Mr. Chapman) in a manner not considered by Mr. C. courteous to the report or to its signers, which called up Mr. C. in reply.

After a good deal of confusion and excitement, the House adjourned—leaving the question in *statu quo*, viz. the pending business during the morning hour.

ARGUS.

SELECTIONS.

From the Baltimore Saturday Visiter.

Rare Disinterestedness.

The following correspondence will fully explain itself:

OFFICE OF SATURDAY VISITER,
Baltimore, Feb. 19th, 1844.

DR. BRISBANE:

Dear Sir—Having learned that you are in town, awaiting the arrival of certain slaves from South Carolina, whom you have *re-purchased* for the purpose of freeing and locating in Ohio, you will oblige me by giving me the facts of the case for publication in my paper—looking, as I do, upon the movement as one of those exhibitions of *self-sacrifice*, rare indeed in the annals of our race!

With sentiments of warmest esteem,
Yours, &c.,
J. E. SNODGRASS.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 20th, 1844.

DR. SNODGRASS:

Dear Sir—Your polite note, requesting me to give you the facts in relation to the emancipation of my slaves, would be politely answered in the negative, were I to consult altogether my personal connection with the subject. But as I presume your purpose is to present the case as one that ought to be imitated, and having myself acted altogether from a conviction of duty which ought to apply to others as well as myself, I cannot allow a feeling of modesty to make me decline giving you the facts you ask for.

In the year 1835, I was editing a paper in the city of Charleston, in which I advocated the right of man to hold property in his fellow-man. I was myself a slaveholder and cotton-planter, being a native of South Carolina. The prosecution of the discussion finally induced me to apprehend I might be in error, and I lowered my tone in advocating slavery, without being really convinced that it was an unjustifiable institution. The moment I began to express my shadow of doubt about the correctness of the views I had taken, and to intimate a willingness to obey any convictions I might have in reference to it, I discovered that freedom of thought or freedom of speech on that subject, was out of the question in South Carolina. I therefore determined to leave the State, and find a home where I would not myself be a slave. Unconvinced of the moral turpitude of the relation of master and slave, I repelled with indignation the charge that I was an abolitionist—an epithet I regarded with as much odium as any one else. Nor did I feel any compunction of conscience in selling my slaves previously to my leaving the State. I was sorry to part with them, but I regarded it as one of those events that circumstances render necessary—indeed, my doubts in regard to the character of the institution, did not amount to any conviction, and I was rather disposed to think there was more of feeling than of sound judgment in my doubt. Sometimes I had doubts, and sometimes I had none. I sold them at a time when the subject of its morality did not just then agitate my mind, and yet, with a determination to go on in the investigation of the subject.

For the purpose of having the slaves remain in the neighborhood of their old acquaintances and not to break up family relations, I sold them considerably below the then market value, to a neighbor and connexion. When I moved to Ohio, I carefully investigated the whole question. In the course of eighteen months, I became thoroughly satisfied that to hold slaves was a wrong to man, and a sin against God. At once, I emancipated the two or three slaves I had reserved. It was not long before I became dissatisfied with myself for selling the others. This soon amounted to a conviction that I ought to get them back, if possible. I failed, at that time, to obtain them. Their master was unwilling to make any reasonable arrangement. I was, however, too fully convinced of the wrong I had perpetrated, to be satisfied to retain the avails of the sale. I accordingly executed a deed, placing in the hands of trustees an amount of real estate equivalent to the amount I had received for these slaves, and appropriated to charitable uses any profits I have ever derived from that species of property. The property placed in trust whenever the slaves could be re-purchased, and if they could be obtained in ten years, the said property was to be appropriated to the objects of emancipation in some practicable mode. Continuing to press the matter, I at length succeeded in obtaining a bill of sale for all but one woman and her two children, (whom I could not possibly obtain,) by paying considerably more than I had sold the slaves for, and nearly double their market value at the time. Two years elapsed, however, without my getting the slaves, although I had the bill of sale for them, and had paid up in full of all demand. It became evident to me that they would never be sent, and a few weeks ago I went for them myself. I took them to Savannah, Georgia, and there I cleared them for Baltimore, and am here now awaiting their arrival with intention to take them (twenty-seven in number) to Ohio, and place them in a situation where they can improve their condition. When I first negotiated for them, I executed, in Ohio, a deed of emancipation, and recorded it regularly in the Clerk's office. They are therefore free, since they are no longer subject to the laws of Carolina, which forbid emancipation. One of the number, an elderly woman, still remains from choice, in Carolina, preferring to risk the laws of the State, to leaving her husband and son, who are not within my control. I presume her age and good character will be sufficient protection.

I am happy, dear sir, to have had opportunity thus to test my fidelity to Jesus Christ. It is the religion of the gospel that wrought upon my heart. This it is that produced a willingness to carry out practically the convictions of my judgment. It has reduced my estate considerably; but, if my temporal circumstances have changed so that I must resort to personal exertions for the support of my wife and children, I have the consciousness of having done it for Christ's sake. Just poverty is more satisfactory than unjust wealth. I dare not boast of what I have done, for 'by the *grace* of GOD, I am what I am.' But I cannot forbear to say that if other slaveholders would do the same thing, they would be infinitely happier than the title of master can ever make them.

May the Almighty preserve our country from the consequences of this terrible system of oppression and wrong, and may we all learn that it is His law that we 'undo the heavy burdens and let the oppressed go free.'

Suffer me to add here, that I much admire the noble independence that distinguishes you as the Editor of a southern journal. The freedom and independence of your columns, in this age of editorial servility, ought to meet the approbation of every true lover of his country, and give an extensive circulation to the 'Baltimore Saturday Visiter,' among citizens of all parties, and Christians of all sects.

Yours very respectfully,
WM. HENRY BRISBANE.

Since we received this noble-souled letter from Dr. Brisbane, his slaves (or rather freemen) arrived, and after a few hours delay, started in the cars for Cincinnati. We called to see them—and oh! how their appearance contrasted with that of such of their less fortunate fellow-beings, who take their departure from that same stigmatized Pratt-street—those victims of that execrable love of gain, which has erected the various slave-prisons, that have outraged the better feelings of our citizens, so long!

The group in question was composed of both sexes and all ages, from a blind grandmother of full seventy years, and a father and mother of about fifty, to children of three or four years, apparently. They seemed overjoyed at the prospect before them, and talked in tearful rapture of 'Massa William's kindness!' And well they may. We confess that we have no language sufficiently forceful to make known our admiration of Dr. Brisbane's course in all this marvellous movement! We feel the deepest interest in it, and do hope he may find it convenient, very soon, to report progress, while more fully and less reservedly portraying the circumstances of these his doings for conscience's sake!

George Thompson.

George Thompson is on his way from the East Indies to England—as ambassador from one of the eastern courts to London. Some successor of the Queen of Sheba, for aught I know. Wonder if our Concord friends, or the Bostonians, would mob him, were he to ride through their streets on the war elephant of the King of Delhi, as he rode recently into that monarch's capital, escorted by as numerous a retinue as ever mobbed him in this country. I had rather, for my own part, see George escorted by a republican mob. It is more in character for an abolitionist. He will retain his fidelity, though, for he is a great, faithful, and brave spirit. He comes to England in behalf of oppressed India, and a friend there writes me he will probably go into Parliament. Sorry to hear that. He will be in worse company there, than at the court of Delhi. Evil communications corrupt good manners—and no communications are more evil than emanate from these Congresses and Parliaments. George Thompson had better turn his back on them all, and come over here and resume his anti-slavery agitation. I wish he was here to enlist in the 'Hundred Conventions' now holding in Massachusetts, alongside of Pillsbury and Douglass. The people would flock to hear him now.—*Herald of Freedom.*

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce.

Awful Calamity! Bursting of the 'Peace-maker,' on board of the Princeton! Two Secretaries Killed!

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 28.

This day will be ever memorable as a day of calamity. A large party of gentlemen and ladies were invited to a ball on board of the Princeton, by Capt. Stockton. The ball was a topic of conversation here for a week past. It was to be highly exclusive. It was given out that no clerks nor subordinate officers were to be invited to it. Still, the invitations were as numerous as the capacity of the ship justified. It was known a week ago, that the President and his family were to be present; that the Heads of Departments and their families were to be there; and that a magnificent entertainment was to be given.

At ten o'clock, this morning, the fashionables were moving towards the arsenal, in long lines of carriages, where they were to be taken into boats or barges, to be conveyed to the ship. They went down the river, as far as Mount Vernon, a numerous and happy party as ever floated on the waters of the wide and sparkling Potomac. They passed Mount Vernon. The big guns—the 'Oregon' and the 'Peace-maker,' were discharged. The Peace-maker was discharged three times, with its ball of 228 pounds, which was sent skipping down the river for miles, to the great gratification of the lookers-on.

The ship returned. She came up the river. Some miles this side of Mount Vernon, and after dinner was over, and about five o'clock, the *forward gun* was again discharged, but without a ball, and with powder only.

One gentleman tells me that he saw a flame rising from the middle of the gun, before the sound of the explosion. The gun had burst and killed—

The Secretary of State, Mr. Upshur.
The Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Gilmer.
Commodore Kennon, of the Navy.
The Hon. Virgil Maxcy, of Md., the Minister to Belgium.
Mr. Gardiner, of Gardiner's Island, New-York.

The principal informants were Mr. Pratt, member of the House, from New-York, and Mr. Barney, of Baltimore.

Mr. Pratt states that he heard the explosion, being near the gangway, and went forward instantly. He was the first person on the spot, except one or two sailors. He saw men on both sides of the gun, prostrated—and two persons, particularly, on the larboard side, with a mess of iron lying on them. These persons he soon recognized as Mr. Gilmer and Mr. Upshur. A little farther on, he saw the mangled corpse of Mr. Gardiner. Mr. Gardiner was, in fact, blown in pieces. He called men to help—threw off his coats, as he states, and took a hand-spike, and, with great difficulty, removed the iron from the legs of Mr. Gilmer and Mr. Upshur. He states that Mr. Gilmer was still breathing, or rather gasping. He says, however, that blood was on their foreheads. Mr. Gilmer soon ceased to breathe. Mr. Upshur was dead. Mr. Gilmer was standing four feet from the gun, with his back turned to it, being in conversation with Mrs. Wethered, of Baltimore. A mass of iron struck him below the hips. Mr. Pratt tells me that the iron was of a thousand pounds weight, as he supposes, that fell on those unfortunate men.

So far as I can gather, Commodore Kennon and Mr. Virgil Maxcy, were on the starboard side of the gun. They were instantly killed,

Some sailors and the President's body-servant, named Armistead, are stated to have been killed, or mortally wounded. None of the ladies were hurt. Some by-standers marvellously escaped. Mr. Benton was near enough to have his hat blown off, but I am happy to state, in contradiction to the rumor, that he was not wounded.

I have just left Brown's and Gadsby's hotels, which are our exchange. Passing by Brown's, a moment ago, my heart sunk when I saw those beautiful and now fatherless girls—the Misses Gardiner—taken into the President's carriage, to be conveyed to his house, where these friends, the ladies of the President's family, can be best taken care of for the present. It was one of these young ladies who, on this occasion, *saved the President's life*. The President was standing near the gun, and by the side of Mr. Upshur, and between him and Mr. Gardiner, at the moment before the gun was to be fired. Miss Gardiner requested the President to conduct her to the cabin, with which he, of course, complied, and thus his life was saved.

I will remark that, while at Gadsby's, a few minutes ago, Mr. Wise, who had just sprang out of his carriage, entered and reached into the crowd—exclaiming, palid and haggard, 'Good God! what is all this?' He had barely heard a rumor at the western end of the city, and come up to learn the facts.

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The Princeton, as most of our readers know, carried two enormously heavy guns, (besides several smaller ones,) throwing balls of more than 200 lbs. weight, and requiring between 40 and 50 lbs. of powder for a charge. The more formidable of the two has been playfully called 'The Peace-maker.' But the event has proved that she might have been more fitly termed, 'Destruction to her Friends.'

A colored servant of the President, named Armistead, was also killed, and five men in charge of the cannon; making a total of eleven killed out-right, except that the President's servant lived about ten minutes. Most of the bodies were shockingly mangled. Judge Upshur was nearly cut in two. Capt. Stockton was wounded, it is believed not dangerously.

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We have stopped the press at 9 o'clock, P. M., to make the above melancholy announcement. The astounding event renders us unfit to make any remarks of our own. We can only record the sad occurrence.

The same number of our paper which contains the unfortunate Gilmer's address to his constituents, bears them also the account of his death.

The last paragraph in the official notice respecting the Canadian prisoners, in the number of our paper, was written by the lamented Upshur, just starting on the excursion, and are the last words he ever wrote.—*Madisonian.*

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Colonel Benton was slightly injured. The accident happened about 3 o'clock, some two or three miles below Alexandria. Colonel Benton's injury arose not from any fragment of the gun, but merely from the concussion. He was at the butt of the gun, taking its range when it fired.

He was not sensible of its stunning effect until he had called for aid to the bleeding sailors. He was stunned for a time, but was enabled to walk after reaching the shore, and has given a distinct account of the dreadful scene. Captain Stockton was burnt by the powder, but not seriously injured.

Capt. Stockton having, on successive days, extended invitations to visit his ship to the executive and committees of Congress, and then to both Houses—invited the ladies of the city to an entertainment on this, which was meant as the gala-day of his beautiful ship. It opened brightly, but has closed in the most dreadful gloom over our community.

The only circumstance calculated to relieve the all-pervading distress is, that of the multitude of ladies who were on board the ship, not one was injured. The happy exception of such a multitude of the tender sex, who witnessed the havoc made in the midst of them of the most distinguished and beloved of their countrymen, while it brings some solace to the circle of their immediate friends, cannot but deepen the sympathies which they, and the whole community, feel for the bereaved families of those who have fallen.

Mr. Upshur and Mr. Gilmer were idols in the happy family by which each was surrounded. The elder children of Mr. Gilmer are just grown; the younger still in the nurse's arms. Commodore Kennon, Mr. Maxcy, and Mr. Gardiner are all torn from family endearments—from wives and children.

We understand that Mrs. Gilmer was upon the deck when her husband fell. It was the third discharge of the gun (and fired at the request of Mr. Gilmer) that burst it. The daughter of Mr. Upshur, several of the family of Com. Kennon, and the daughters of Mr. Gerdiner, were on board the steamer; but none of them, except Mrs. Gilmer, were apprized of the death of those most near to them, until after their return to the city.

Almost all the ladies were below, at dinner, when the catastrophe occurred. Mrs. Gilmer was brought to the city almost in a state of distraction.

There were two hundred ladies on board, and during the two discharges of the gun, were on deck; and many of them approached very near to observe the course of the ball after it struck the water. President Tyler was there also, but had attended the ladies to dinner before the third discharge.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Sun.

Scene in the Cabin Before the Explosion.

Captain Stockton took the head of the table, and gave the health of the President, which was drunk with enthusiasm. Several other toasts were given, and heartily responded to; the ladies quaffed their goblets of champagne; their bright eyes sparkled, their cheeks glowed, and wit flowed from every ruby lip.

At last, Capt. Stockton said, as they were now within 20 minutes run of Alexandria, he would fire a parting salute from the peace-maker, in honor of the memory of the great peace-maker of his country, George Washington. He said this *privately* to the President and the Cabinet immediately around him, and told them he fired the gun this time for their especial benefit and gratification. Accordingly, they all then started to go up the cabin stairs, and the President was nearly on deck when he was called to hear a toast proposed by Miss Wickliffe; it was this: 'The flag of America: the only thing that is American that will bear a stripe.' This was received with great enthusiasm. The President then gave, 'The three great guns—the Princeton—her commander, and his peace-maker.' This was loudly applauded by the ladies. And then the members of the Cabinet started to go up stairs.

At this moment, Mr. Upshur had his hand on the President's arm, and said, 'Come, Mr. Tyler, let's go up and see the big gun fired.' Just then, Col. Dade asked Mr. Waller (the President's son-in-law) to sing an old song about 1776. The President replied, No, by George, Upshur, I must stay and hear that song of Waller's, it's an old favorite of mine, you go up and I'll join you directly.' Accordingly, away went Upshur and Gilmer, Wilkins and Nelson, to see the gun fired.

Messrs. Benton, Phelps Hannegan, Jarnagin, Miss Woodbury, Mr. and Mrs. Weathered, Charles A. Davis, Mr. David Gardiner, Virgil Maxcy, Commodore Kennon, and many others went on deck.

The President remained below, listening to the song, and just as Mr. Waller came to the name of 'Washington,' off went the gun. 'There,' said Mr. Scomberg, (master of the ceremonies,) 'that's in honor of his name; now for three cheers.' And just as they were about to give them, a boatswain's mate rushed into the cabin, covered with powder, and said that the big gun had exploded, and killed many of those on deck.

On this announcement the shrieks and agonizing cries of the women were heart-rending; all calling for their husbands, fathers, brothers, and so on: and when found, rushing wildly into their arms, and fainting with excess of feeling.

All the upper part at the breech was blown off, and a piece weighing 200 or 300 pounds struck Messrs. Gilmer, Upshur, Maxcy, Gardiner and Kennon, and knocked them all down; the piece lay across the legs of Gilmer, Upshur, and Gardiner, when they were found after the smoke blew away. Gilmer and Upshur were also struck by pieces of iron or rivets in the head and temples, and Gilmer behind the ear and in the side. Mr. Gardiner's lower limbs were torn all to pieces; all their clothes were very much burnt; and Upshur, Gardiner, and Kennon, all fell touching each other. Upshur's lips moved for a few seconds, and then all was still; Gilmer breathed once or twice, and then all was over; the others never stirred.

Capt. Stockton was blown back against the fore shroud (he was behind the breech of the gun when fired;) his whiskers and eyebrows were all blown off, and as soon as he recovered from the stunning effect of the shock, and the smoke cleared away, he sprang with a delirious effort on the gun, shattered as it was, and exclaimed in agony, '*Would to God I alone had been killed!*' His friends then carried him down stairs, and laid him on a settee, where he nearly fainted from exhaustion, and at last burst into an agony of tears. He was immediately put to bed.

The President appeard the most sorrow-stricken man of the whole party; he rushed to the deck, and when he saw the dead bodies of Upshur and Gilmer, he wept bitterly. It was a horrid scene. God keep me from seeing another like it. One of Virgil Maxcy's arms was blown off, and struck Mrs. Weathered on the side of the head, covering her face with blood, and knocking her bonnet off. Colonel Benton was blown flat on his back, and stunned; all the buttons on senator Phelps' coat were torn off, and Miss Elizabeth Woodbury, who stood between them, had her bonnet blown off, but was not knocked down.

Miss Somerville's dress was covered with blood and brains. Jarnagin and Hannegan were blown flat on their backs; Mr. Postmaster Tyson had a hole blown through his hat; Mr. Strickland, the architect, had a hole torn through the skirt of his coat; General Jesup narrowly escaped, a piece of the gun passing close to his face; two or three of the foreign Ministers were blown down, but otherwise uninjured; many others were blown down by the shock, hats and bonnets blown off, faces cut, and clothes torn; Mr. C. A. Davis had his lip slightly cut. All the bulwarks on the larboard side nearly back to the main chains were blown out, and all the bulwarks on the starboard side back to the bow gun, by the fore-chains, and down to the monkey-rail, were blown over the side.

In addition to this, the deck was strewed with iron rivets, &c., and it is God's mercy that all on the forward deck were not blown into eternity together.

Col. Benton, when taken home, was cold and almost pulseless, but he has recovered, and Dr. Sewell hopes he will be about in a few days.

Capt. Stockton, when I left the vessel at 9 o'clock to-night, was quite delirious, and suffering intense mental as well as physical pain.

Mr. Gilmer has left a wife and nine children. Mr. Upshur, aged about 55, has left a wife 35 years of age, and a daughter in ill health, aged 16.

Com. Kennon has left a wife and family. Mr. Gardiner has left his two daughters, who have long been belles in this place.

The female relatives were not allowed to see the dead bodies of their husbands and fathers; but were taken home by their female friends immediately. Mr. Wickliffe left as soon as possible with his wife and daughters; Judge Wilkins and the President stayed in the ship till the last.

All is horror and sadness in the city. When the news was told to Mr. Spencer, he cried like a child.

The officers of the vessel say positively, that no one was blown overboard, and that only six sailors were wounded, all of whom were sent to the hospital, and one of whom has since died.

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Mr. Charles A. Davis writes to the New-York Express—

'I was standing at the time about ten feet from and behind Capt. Stockton, who fired the gun. I owe my escape entirely to the accidental circumstance of having clambered up on the inner rigging with a lady, Mrs. Weathered, of Baltimore, a few feet above the deck, while every thing living on deck below us was killed or wounded. She was spattered all over with blood; our hats were blown off; but the only injury I received was a slight contusion on the upper lip. I saw Stockton fire the gun, and then for a few seconds all was darkness to me, and the first scene presented was this devastation in the group directly under me.'

The Hon. Mr. Pratt, of New-York, was the first person who approached the scene of destruction. Some sailors at the moment gathered around him, and were stupified with horror. Mr. Pratt seized a handspike and attempted to lift from Mr. Gilmer and Mr. Upshur a heavy mass of iron, which, he says, was upon their legs, as they lay prostrate. He says he instantly recognized them. He succeeded in his attempt, but the limbs were crushed. Mr. Upshur was dead! Mr. Gilmer was just gasping, and soon died. Mr. Gardiner, he says, was dead, and horribly mangled.

On lady, who was on deck at the time, escaped miraculously—her head-dress having been struck by a piece of the cannon, and her hair singed, with no injury to her person. She was thrown prostrate by the concussion, as were many others.

Mr. Senator Phelps, of Vermont, had his hat blown from his head, but he received no personal injury. Several members of the House of Representatives were present, but no one received any injury. Col. Seaton, Mayor of this city, was detained below by the misplacing of his hat and by this trifling circumstance was probably preserved.

One account says—'Had the gun burst at the first fire, the destruction of life must have been immense, as multitudes were standing around. It is miraculous that no more were killed. Senator Atchison's life was saved by Senator Hannegan. Gen. A. was going directly towards the gun, but was stopped by Mr. Hannegan just in season to escape the explosion. The President was below at the time, and when informed by Mr. Hannegan that he had 'lost two members of his Cabinet'—'What do you say?' said the President, incredulously. Mr. H. replied, 'Secretary Gilmer and Secretary Upshur both lie dead!' The President burst into tears.

It appears that this was the third party on board the Princeton, and was intended for the most magnificent. The first two were given by Capt. Stockton to the two Houses of Congress, and to the high officers of the government, civil, military and naval. The third was given to them and the ladies of their families.

Some wonderful coincidences were remarked in connection with it. It occurred opposite the tomb of Washington; the gun was called 'The Peace-maker;' Mr. Upshur had five minutes before observed that 'one might be made to reach *Mexico*.' The *Texan* Charge was near Mr. Upshur, and had been in earnest conversation with him for some time. The Charge wept bitterly over the mangled corse.

When the rush was made to the bow to lend aid to the sufferers, Messrs. Upshur and Gilmer were both still breathing. A heavy piece of the Peace-maker's metal lay across their bodies. As soon as this was removed and the attempt was made to straighten them, they both ceased to breathe. Mr. Gilmer had a tremendous gash over the right eye, which alone would have caused his death; he was dreadfully lacerated all over, however. Mr. Upshur had both his legs and one arm broken, and a wide and frightful wound in the abdomen. Commodore Kennon was struck fair in the face, and his countenance shockingly mashed. He and Col. Gardiner, Mr. Maxcy, and the President's servant, were killed on the spot.

The President's youngest son was saved by a Mr. Mass, who playfully prevented him from going to see the gun fired, and dragged him back to take wine with him.

A Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, describing the catastrophe, says:

The most heart-rending scene was that which followed. The two daughters of Mr. Gardiner, of New-York, were both on board, and lamented the death of their father, while Mrs. Gilmer, from whom they in vain attempted to keep the dreadful news of the death of her husband, presented truly a spectacle fit to be depicted by a tragedian.

There she sat on deck, with her hair dishevelled, pale as death, struggling with her feelings, and with the dignity of a woman; her lips quivering, her eyes fixed and upturned, without a tear, only the corners a little moist, soliloquising: 'Oh certainly not! —Mr. Gilmer *cannot* be dead! Who would dare to injure him? Yes, oh Lord, have mercy upon me! Oh Lord, have mercy on him!' And then still more apparently calm and seeming to be collected, with the furies tearing her heart within, 'I beseech ye, gentlemen, to tell me where my husband is?'

'Oh, impossible!—impossible!—can he, can he, can he be dead?—impossible!'

Here Mr. Senator Rives, of Virginia, drew near 'Come near, Mr. Rives,' she said, in soft whispers which resembled Ophelia's madness, 'tell me where my husband is—tell me whether he is dead. Now certainly, Mr. Rives, this is impossible—is it not so?' Mr. Rives stood speechless, the tears trickling down his cheeks.

The bodies of the victims of this dire calamity were brought up to Washington on a steamboat at half-past one o'clock, on Thursday.

At two o'clock, five hearses, conveying the remains of Upshur, Gilmer, Kennon, Maxcy and Gardiner, and followed by a long train of carriages, citizens on horseback and on foot, passed in silence along the avenue, and proceeded to the President's mansion. The coffins were taken in the east room, and laid on frames in the centre, arranged according to the ranks of the deceased.

The President of the United States, who was almost overwhelmed with grief, remained a few minutes surrounded by the survivors of his Cabinet, and a numerous body of citizens, to receive the several Committees, Congressional and others, appointed to wait upon him, and the report of the Committee of Investigation that had remained on board the Princeton after the sad occurrence, and then retired to his private room.

The Committee of Congress appointed a sub-committee to meet a Committee on the part of the Executive, at the President's House, at 5 o'clock, to arrange a programme of the funeral ceremonies.

A committee had been appointed to take charge of the Princeton and to institute investigations into the cause of the accident, who have made a report, completely exonerating Capt. Stockton and his officers and men from the slightest blame. It seems, from the testimony of Lieut. Hunt, of the Princeton, that the gun, when it exploded, was loaded with twenty-five pounds of powder and single-shotted, and that it had frequently before been discharged with thirty and thirty-five pounds, and once at New-York with forty-nine.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 29.

Both Houses of Congress convened to-day at the usual hour, but with hearts oppressed and countenances dejected with no affected sorrow. All seemed deeply awed at the contemplation of the terribly disastrous occurrence of yesterday; and the tide of feeling, deep, spontaneous, heart-felt, ennobling to pervade every bosom, unostentatious, and presenting no tokens of its existence save the solemn silence and the occasional tear-drop observable in either assembly. Appropriate and fervent prayers were offered—in the House by Rev. Mr. Tinsley, and in the Senate by Rev. Mr. Tuston; and passing over the full observance of the usual formalities of reading the journal, the message of the President, communicating officially what was already but too surely known and bitterly felt, was laid before them by John Tyler, Jr. Esq., his private Secretary, and was immediately read, as follows:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the U. States:

I have to perform the melancholy duty of announcing to the two Houses of Congress the death of the Hon. ABEL P. UPSHUR, late Secretary of State, and the Hon. THOMAS W. GILMER, late Secretary of the Navy.

This most lamentable occurrence transpired on board the U. S. ship-of-war, the Princeton, on yesterday, at about half-after four o'clock in the evening, and proceeded from the explosion of one of the large guns of that ship.

The loss which the Government and the country have sustained by this deplorable event is hightened by the death, at the same time, and by the same cause, of several distinguished persons and valuable citizens.

I shall be permitted to express my great grief at an occurrence which has thus so suddenly stricken from my side two gentlemen upon whose advice I so confidently relied in the discharge of my arduous task of administering the office of the Executive Department, and whose services, at this interesting period, were of such vast importance.

In some relief of the public sorrow which must necessarily accompany this most painful event, it affords me much satisfaction to say, that it was produced by no carelessness or inattention on the part of the officers and crew of the Princeton, but must be set down as one of those casualties which, to a greater or less degree, attend upon every service, and which are invariably incident to the temporal affairs of mankind. I will also add, that it in no measure detracts, in my estimation, from the value of the improvements contemplated in the construction of the Princeton, or from the merits of her brave and distinguished commander and projector.

(Signed) JOHN TYLER.

Washington, Feb. 29th, 1844.

In the House, after the reading of the Message, Mr. Hopkins, observing that in the state of feeling which prevailed in the breast of every member, he should be pardoned when he declined to utter one syllable in support of them, moved sundry appropriate resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

In the Senate, the Message having been heard, Mr. Rives offered some brief but impressive remarks, after which, the Senate adopted resolutions expressive of their deep sense of sympathy and bereavement.

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☞ Describing the funeral, which took place on Saturday last, the Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce, says:

I have just returned from attending the funeral of the deceased. Mr. Maxcy's body was removed to Maryland. The assemblage was immense—the end of the procession could not be seen. The religious services were performed at the President's, in presence of the Cabinet, the Senate, the House, and the Supreme Court, the Foreign Ministers, the Clergy of the District, and some of the mourners. Rev. Mr. Hawley read the 90th Psalm and some selections. Dr. Laurie read that eloquent 14th chapter of Job, and offered an appropriate prayer. Rev. Mr. Butler of Georgetown, whose church Commodore Kennon's family attends, delivered a plain, faithful and impressive address to the audience. When the procession was formed, minute guns commenced firing from various quarters, and the four bodies were placed in the Congressional tomb, where about three years ago I saw them lay the form of Harrison on a similar occasion. Thus closes this day and this week.

Congress -- The Gag.

House of Representatives, Monday, Feb. 26.

Mr. Holmes offered the following resolution, and called for the previous question:

Resolved, That the people of the slaveholding States and territories of this Union and the District of Columbia have a right not only to their property in slaves, but to their enjoyment of that right, in peace, unmolested by federal action; and that the receipt of any petition, memorial, or resolution, touching that right, is an infraction of the Constitution, a gross interference with the rights of the States, and a disturbance of the peace and safety of the Union.

Mr. Thompson suggested that the resolution be modified, so as to read 'an infraction of the "spirit" of the Constitution.' The modification was refused.

Mr. Adams said he desired to debate the resolution, and he desired therefore it should be laid over.

The Speaker observed that it was now too late, as the previous question had been demanded.

The votes were counted, and reported by the tellers, as follows—59 in the affirmative, and 54 in the negative.

There being a second.

The Speaker announced the question now to be, 'Shall the main question now be put?'

Mr. C. Johnson moved to lay the question upon the table; and upon this question the yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. Winthrop desired to make an inquiry respecting the admissibility of this resolution under the 21st rule. (A laugh.)

The Speaker remarked that he did not consider the resolution as interfering with that rule

The yeas and nays were then taken, and resulted—yeas 63, nays 105, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Abbott, Benton, James Black, Blackwell, J. Brinkerhoff, Brodhead, Buffington, Cary, Coles, Dana, R. D. Davis, Dean, Dunlap, Elmer, Farlee, Foster, Byram Green, Hale, Hamlin, Hardin, Hays, Herrick, Hopkins, Hubbell, Hungerford, Washington Hunt, James B. Hunt, Joseph R. Ingersoll, Jenks, Cave Johnson, Perley B. Johnson, Andrew Kennedy, Preston King, Leonard, Lyon, McClelland, McDowell, McIlvaine, Moore, Murphy, Owen, Parmenter, Patterson, Pratt, Purdy, Rathbun, Ritter, Russell, St. John, Sample, T. H. Seymour, David L. Seymour, Simons, John T. Smith, Thomas Smith, Steenrod, Andrew Stewart, J. Stewart, Sykes, Wheaton, Williams, William Wright, and Yost.—63.

Nays—Messrs. Adams, Ashe, Atkinson, Baker, Barringer, Beardsley, Belser, Bidlack, Edward J. Black, Bossier, Bowlin, Boyd, Milton Brown, William J. Brown, Burke, Burt, Caldwell, Causin, R. Chapman, Clinch, Clinton, Cobb, Collamer, Cranston, Cullom, Daniel, Garret Davis, John W. Davis, Deberry, Dickey, Dickinson, Dillingham, Dromgoole, Ellis, Ficklin, Fish, Foot, French, Giddings, Grinnell, Grider, Hammett, Haralson, Harper, Holmes, Hoge, Houston, Hubard, Hudson, Hughes, Irvin, Andrew Johnson, George W. Jones, John P. Kennedy, Daniel P. King, Labranche, Lewis, Lucas, Lumpkin, McClernand, McConnell, McKay, Matthews, Joseph Morris, Mosley, Newton, Norris, Payne, Peyton, Elisha R. Potter, Emery D. Potter, Preston, Ramsey, Charles M. Read, David S. Reid, Redding, Relf, Rhett, Rockwell, Rogers, Saunders, Senter, Severance, Simpson, Albert Smith, Caleb Smith, Robert Smith, Stiles, Stone, Summers, Thomasson, Thompson, Tibbatts, Tilden, Tucker, Tyler, Vance, Vinton, Wentworth, Wethered, White, Winthrop, and Joseph A. Wright—105.

So the motion to lay on the table was negatived.

Mr. Belser offered the following resolution as a substitute for that of the gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. Holmes,) and asked him to accept it as a modification. Mr. B. said he would inform the House that the resolutions were the same as were adopted at the democratic national convention, held at Baltimore in May, 1840:

'Resolved, That justice and sound policy forbid the federal government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of another, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country; that every citizen and every section of the country has a right to demand and insist upon an equality of rights and privileges, and to a complete and ample protection of persons and property from domestic violence or foreign aggression.

Resolved, That Congress has no power, under the Constitution, to interfere with, or control the domestic institutions of the several States; and that such States are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the abolitionists or others, made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incepient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences; and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend to our political institutions.'

The question was put on reconsidering the vote on seconding the previous question.

Mr. Adams asked if it was in order to move a call of the House.

The Speaker said that it was not, the previous question having been seconded.

Mr. Dickinson moved to lay the question of reconsideration on the table: rejected.

The question being put on reconsidering the vote seconding the previous question, it was carried—ayes 86, noes 37.

So the vote seconding the previous question was reconsidered.

Mr. Vinton called for a further division of the question, so as to take it first on the first branch of the first resolution, which was also ordered.

The question was then taken on the first branch of the first resolution, as follows:

'Resolved, That justice and sound policy forbid the federal government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of another, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country.'

The Speaker then announced the vote yeas 166, nays 3: Messrs. Adams, Grinnell, and Winthrop.

The question then recurred on the second branch of the resolution, which was as follows:

'That every citizen, and every section of the country, has a right to demand and insist upon an equality of rights and privileges, and to a complete and ample protection of persons and property from domestic violence or foreign aggression.'

On this the yeas and nays were taken, and resulted—yeas 171, nays none.

The question then being upon the adoption of the second resolution,

Mr. Hardin moved that it be divided; and that the first part end with the word 'constitution.'

Mr. Rhett asked to be excused from voting upon this resolution, for the reason that it declared that Congress had no power to interfere with slavery in the States, introducing the question of jurisdiction; and he did not intend, by any vote of his, to decide that Congress had no right to control the question.

The question was put, 'Shall the gentleman be excused from voting?' and decided in the negative.

Mr. Payne asked to be excused from voting, for the same reasons as those assigned by the gentleman from South Carolina.

He was not excused.

Mr. E. J. Black asked to be excused from voting, because the first part of the resolution denied the constitutional power of Congress to abolish slavery within the States of this Union; and the second part said nothing about the constitutional power, but placed the question wholly on the ground of expediency, and thereby conceded the constitutional power of Congress to abolish slavery. He therefore asked to be excused.

The question was put, and he was not excused.

The yeas and nays were then taken upon the first part of the second resolution; which is as follows:

'Resolved, That Congress has no power, under the Constitution, to interfere with, or control, the domestic institutions of the several States; and that such States are the sole and proper judges of every thing appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution.'

And resulted—yeas 151, nays 3: Messrs. Adams, Collamer, and Vance.

The question was then put upon agreeing to the second part of the resolution, in these words:

'That all efforts of the abolitionists or others, made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take incepient steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences, and that all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and endanger the stability and permanency of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend to our political institutions.'

The Speaker announced the vote to be—yeas 128, nays 23.

Nays—Messrs. Abbot, Adams, Baker, Dickey, Giddings, Grinnell, Hardin, Harper, Hudson, Washington Hunt, Irvin, Perley B. Johnson, Daniel P. King, McClelland, McIlvaine, Rockwell, Rogers, Severance, Albert Smith, Tilden, Vance, Vinton, and Winthrop—23.

So the concluding portion of the resolution was adopted.

The House then adjourned.

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From the Cincinnati Morning Herald.

The Fact Demonstrated Beyond all Doubt.

There are those among us who, blinded by prejudice or party spirit, think it all *humbug*, when we tell them that the slaveholders are the real masters of this republic. We commend to all such the following facts. January 23. Mr. BATES, of Massachusetts, in the United States Senate, presents resolutions of the Legislature of his State, for an amendment of the Constitution, in relation to the ratio of representation. His deferential attitude and tone did not prevent an explosion of wrath among the slaveholders. Massachusetts was abused and charged with meditating treason, and objection was at first made to the reception of her resolutions. At last the gracious privilege was accorded, that her resolution should be laid on the table: but, Mr. Bigby, of Alabama, 'would not publish treason against the rights and interests of his constituents,' —and therefore, by a vote of 26 to 14, the Senate refused to print the resolutions of the sovereign State of Massachusetts.

Now mark the difference, and ask yourselves, who are your masters?

February 7th, in the Senate, Mr. Berrien, of Georgia, presented the following resolution, being a report of a Committee on the state of the Republic in the Legislature of Georgia.

'Your committee dissent wholly with Massachusetts, in regard to the proposed amendment, and ask the unanimous adoption of the following resolutions:

'*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*, That the Constitution of the United States was the result of mutual concession and compromise among the several States; that the federal basis as established by that instrument was a mutual concession to the slaveholding States of this Union; and that any attempt now to strike from the instrument that feature, would be a gross violation of the faith pledged on that adoption.'

Did any Senator object to the *reception* of this resolution? No! Did the member from Georgia, who presented it, deprecate, *a la Bates*, the introduction of the exciting topic, and any discussion that might arise? No! Senators from the South are not afraid to represent the wishes of their several States. What became of the resolution? Lest we should be suspected of exaggerating, we will give from the National Intelligencer the brief report of its disposition.

'Mr. Berrien said, as the resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts were laid on the table, he would move that these be laid on the table and printed, which was agreed to.'

'AND PRINTED—WHICH WAS AGREED TO!' Poor MASSACHUSETTS must crawl up to their door, abject and cringing, asking to be received; must be kept waiting the tyrant's pleasure, and at last be admitted only to be *gagged!* GEORGIA walks forward erect, enters unquestioned, and utters her voice freely. The resolutions of the former *shall not be printed*—the resolutions of the latter are *ordered to be printed*, NONE DISSENTING.

And yet we, poor deluded creatures in the Free States, boast that we are *free*? Free? Aye—to do the bidding of an insolent aristocracy of slave owners! Perhaps Massachusetts may find time, amidst her preparations to secure the election to the Presidency of a chief member of this privileged order which thus puts his hoof upon her honor—*perhaps* she may find time to express her regret at being so treated. But we doubt it. Under the ascendency of the Whig and Democratic parties, the spirit of the free States is crushed. But the whole story is not told. Mr. Bates thought he must do something, so the next day he arose, after the reading of the Journal, and said—

[Here follow the dastardly remarks of Mr. Bates, which we have already published in the Liberator.]

Much as we admire forbearance, there is a point beyond which it becomes MEANNESS. Mr. Bates has gone a whole league's length beyond this point. He has no motion to make—oh no! The Senate may, if it see proper, correct this difference—that is all—no offence, I hope, most noble seignors! O, this is too bad! Would to heaven the 'old man eloquent' could have stood for one moment in the place of that cowering Senator.

But what was the sequel? Of course, the Senate corrected their difference? No such thing. No man noticed Mr. Bates, or his humble remarks. The Senate went straightway about its business, without the slightest indication of consciousness that there was such a State as Massachusetts in existence—and *there was an end of it.* What Whig or Democratic editor has noticed this most monstrous outrage of the Slave Power? Not *one!*

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From the Signal of Liberty.

Colored Masons.

We copy the following from the Philadelphia 'Elevator,' a paper edited and published by an association of young *colored men.* No doubt Mr. Vanbrakle 'cites things in scripture' that *nobody* but a mason *would* 'know any thing about'—and it will also be found that what he cites is *his own* scripture:

'We have before us a pamphlet of twelve pages, entitled a Masonic Oration, by our fellow-citizen Samuel Vanbrakle, delivered on last St. John's day. It is well worth reading, as it contains some happy and sublime touches, and carries the reader back to olden times, and *cites things in scripture that we are inclined to think but few people know any thing about.*'

Mr. Vanbrakle, we presume, is a colored man; and if so, we are truly sorry. We are free to admit, if any man on earth can be justifiable in becoming a member of a secret society, it is the colored man of America, and especially the *slave;* but it is wrong to employ such an instrumentality, only evil as it is, even for the accomplishment of a good purpose. The day is past when the *end* may be plead to justify the means. Secret societies are, necessarily, anti-democratic. The use of secret signs, grips, and pass-words, is not compatible with the open, manly, upright character of a *freeman*—nor of one who *deserves* to be free! What can be more inconsistent than for a friend of *equality* to join a secret society—established for the very purpose of giving its members peculiar advantages over others—their fellow-men—of producing *inequality?* We defy refutation of the assertion which we here make—that no true republican, no Democrat, and above all, no sincere abolitionist, advocating the great principle of equality—of equal privileges for all—*can either belong to a secret society, or defend it!* It is a selfish organization, necessarily, which cannot have the 'greatest good of the greatest number' in view. That secret societies have been effectively employed in the overthrow of tyranny, we know; but we do hope our colored friends will not seek to overcome evil with evil; but rather, relying implicitly on the word of the Omnipotent, put their trust alone in truly *righteous* means. We believe as firmly as we believe that God is, that evil can *only* be overcome with *good;* for how can it be, if *evil* be set against *evil*, that any thing but evil will result? It cannot be that the stream which flows from an impure fountain will be pure. We pray our colored friends to abandon masonry and odd-fellowship. God is on your side, and you need not fear to trust him! Don't imitate the *faults* of your oppressors; for we cannot hope that you would be better than they, could you change relations with them, if you persist in joining and sustaining selfish, secret, oath-bound societies—established among the whites of this country, at least with the sole object of *monopolizing* for their members all the privileges and advantages of society. They can have no other object—for this government secures all just rights to white citizens—and if you seek equality for your race by such means, you may succeed, perhaps, but what will you have gained at last?—and who may tell what even greater evils may result. We wish to be understood distinctly in saying, as we do now—that we cannot give our aid, countenance or sympathy to adhering colored members of a masonic or odd-fellow lodge. If you will use such means as these, you must seek elsewhere for approval. We cannot and will not, God aiding us, give any countenance to those who seek to effect emancipation, dear as is the cause to us, by any unrighteous means.

VOLUME XIV.—NO. 12.

THE LIBERATOR

BOSTON:

FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 8, 1844.

Explosion of the 'Peace-Maker.'

A thrill of horror is pervading the whole country as the tidings of the recent disastrous explosion of the war-steamer Princeton's great gun are conveyed from post to post. Eight persons have perished in this catastrophe, and several others have been severely wounded. The number is quite insignificant, when some of the victims were conspicuous members of the republic. Lamentation and distress are everywhere visible, as though a national calamity had overtaken us. The press, the pulpit, the legislative assembly are full of condolence. All this would seem to indicate a high estimate of the value of human life, on the part of the people. But it is not so. The general grief does not spring from the fountain of common humanity, but from baffled pride and selfishness, from degrading homage to false greatness, to geographical proximity. It is not, therefore, to be found, but will be as evanescent as a morning cloud. Still, the dreadful occurrence may be made subservient to pacific purposes. If rightly applied, it will do much towards hastening that joyful time when all weapons of war shall be turned into useful implements, and man shall no longer seek to imbrue his hands in the blood of his fellow-man.

This colossal piece of ordnance, in destroying human life, executed the grand design for which it was made. Americans, to be sure, were to be exempted from all personal danger in regard to it; but it was to be no respecter of persons, in the case of those who are called foreigners. All such,—whatever their condition, fame, age, sex,—it was to mow down in heaps according to the exigencies of the moment, as though they were nothing better than wooden targets set up for amusement, or practice in sharp-shooting. It was manufactured for a diabolical purpose, and cursed with diabolical glee, 'THE PEACE-MAKER.' We have quite as willingly see it take the lives of Upshur, Gilmer, Kennon, and Gardiner, as the lives of any similar number of Englishmen, Irishmen, Frenchmen, or Patagonians. We love the whole human race too well to desire the destruction of any of them by any such infernal contrivance; and we shall never stop to ask at what dist

such a calamity. The people have lost their and their manhood, or they would sooner per- than consent to any such arrangement.

The genuine friends of 'peace on earth' should be themselves, at this solemn crisis, to bind the de- spirit of war—making all possible use of the catastrophe to impress the public mind with a of the wickedness and inutility of all warlike measures. How is it that they are not more active their sacred cause? Is it not precisely the time for to memorialize Congress on this subject? Is this country on the verge of a war with Mexico, will be inevitable, if Texas be annexed to this ? Is not a war with England an event to be ted at any moment, in relation to the Oregon ? How shall the Government be intimidated plunging the nation into the horrors of war, ex- by a strong moral demonstration on the part of the ds of peace, in public meetings, through the me- of the press, and in the presentation of remon- es to Congress?

Odd Fellows.

cieties of Odd Fellows are multiplying in all of the United States, as if a general resurrection old Masonic lodges had taken place, in another . It is another indication of the downward ten- of the republic. The friends of freedom, equal- and LIGHT, should sound the tocsin of alarm, and e these secret combinations with zeal and bold- Innocence, goodness, brotherly kindness and , impartial love, never need, never seek, never any fantastic guises, nor delight in any fool- emmeries. They have no mysteries, no badges, s, no pass-words, no external signals of any They require neither oath nor affirmation for preservation or enforcement. Conscious that is no evil about them, they are ever ready to be ed by all that is holy in heaven, or pure on They never demand a *quid pro quo*—an equiv- for an equivalent. 'For if ye love them who , what reward have ye? do not even the pub- the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, do ye more than others? do not even the publi- the same?'

The very name of these societies is a key to their and vulgar origin; because it is not a nickname, by an enemy, but one that has been voluntarily 'Odd Fellows'! How much of sobriety, ity, of self respect, is embodied in that ridicu- appellation! It is fit for the bar-room, the grog- the haunt of profligacy. Walker defines the 'odd' to mean, among other things, something routh, strange, unaccountable, fantastical, unlike- appearance improper, *unlucky*.' Coupled with significant term 'fellow,'—significant in such a ation,—we have an octavo volume of meaning in words. How can rational beings so degrade them- as to glory in such a title?

What is the claim vauntingly put forth by this Odd lowship? That it is instituted for a charitable ose. But, at best, it is nothing more than a com- ce with the homely saying, 'You scratch my , and I'll tickle your elbow';—at best, it is only tual insurance company—and what has that to with heaven-born charity?—at best, it is simply a gain between two parties, 'If you will do so by then I will do so by you.' But, in truth, it is thing far below all this; for it exacts from its bers pecuniary assessments, the benefit of which y large majority of them never experience; and amount expended in charity, or mutual aid, in of sickness or poverty, is, doubtless, (as com- d with the expenditures for purposes not less use- but ridiculous,) as 'a grain of wheat to a bushel .' For how many years were the people de- ed in regard to the charitable character of the Ma- sonic institution! When an investigation was made this matter, it was found that its philanthropy s humbug; and this Odd Fellowship will be found equally as hollow an imposture, notwithstanding ssurance that may be now and then given to a mber, or to his family, to be ostentatiously ed before the police, on suitable occasions, as a to the eyes of those who are disposed to ques- a benevolent character.

Nathaniel Colver, of this city, has attempted to two discourses against Odd Fellowship, on the last Sunday evenings, in the Tremont Temple. each occasion, the excitement has been prodigi- and several thousand persons have assembled, indications of a serious riot. The Mayor and r officers had to be summoned at the last meet- in order to preserve the peace! So much for to speak against a 'benevolent' institution! such things are witnessed in the green tree, what ll we see in the dry?

American Manners and Morals.

The Rev. Orville Dewey, D. D.' has published Broadway Tabernacle discourse on this subject in last number of the Christian Examiner, from which has been reprinted in pamphlet form. He has omit- some of the most offensive portions of it, respec- slavery and the abolition movement; but it is thoroughly rotten, and deserving of unmingled ation on the part of all the friends of human lib- It is a studied effort to gloss over American ty, and to cater to American pride and vanity.

Dr. Dewey asks—'What is to be done? This is great question; and it is a difficult question; it is ounced with difficulties.' Now, I ask, what makes difficult question; what environs it with difficul- to such a mind as Dr. Dewey's? Can it be any ng else but that which has always made it difficult man to cease to do wrong,—namely, that they were willing? It is the same old difficulty which stood the way of following Christ when he was on earth. the difficulty which grows out of the incompati- y of uniting the service of God and the service of mon in the same individual. There is a cross to ; and the public mind, in this country, is not d to take it up; and Dr. Dewey sympathizes the public mind, and apologizes for it, and is ing about for some way to get round that cross or , instead of shouldering it and bearing it. The lic mind in this matter is not reconciled to God, Dr. Dewey's mind is not. The public mind, and Dewey's mind, are neither of them disinfected of old virus which ever makes it impossible to receive ying of Jesus,—'All ye are brethren.' In terms, country and the church, and Dr. Dewey as their ch-piece, have adopted the great sentiment of in- equality and human brotherhood; but in their s, they have never adopted it, and never will, they shall be regenerated, and filled with the it of Christ's own philanthropy.

Now, this is what makes it a difficult question, hat is to be done?' This state of irreconcilement ween God and our own souls,—this unreadiness to prompt and equal justice, where we have all our been doing injustice,—this desire to save our pride self-consequence from being humbled by an ad- ion to equal rights and privileges of the unoffend- brother whom we have crushed in the dust, is es environs the question with difficulties to the erican heart. To be just, at the same time that want to remain unjust,—to give up sin and yet on upon it,—is certainly a difficult problem to e. No wonder that our most gifted minds are zzled and bemazed by it. They pass their hands r their aching brows in despair, and exclaim, hat is to be done? It is the great question, and it a difficult one;—it is environed with difficulties.' e of those children whom Jesus took upon his knees, en he saw his disciples contending who should be atest, would probably have found no difficulty in ving this matter; but wise, and prudent, and deep aking men have not discernment enough to do it.

☞ Henry C. Wright arrived at Graefenburg on the 10th of January. George Thompson has probably arrived in England from India.

Letters from David Lee Child.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1844.

DEAR GARRISON:

The regular morning hour has been again devoted, for the last nine days, to the discussion of the '21st Rule.' Mr. Severance was followed by Mr. Campbell, of S. C. His argument consisted of a recital of the various acts of the House, whereby they had refused, either in particular cases, or by resolutions and rules applicable to all cases, to receive our petitions, or to allow to our representatives any exercise of the freedom of speech on the subjects of them. I thought to myself that, by a similar logic, the British government might have easily replied to the complaint in the Declaration of Independence, 'that our humble petitions had remained *unanswered*,' or had been made the occasion of new indignities.' Observe, that the grievance was not the *non-reception* of petitions, but the not *answering* of them. There was no pretense that the '*right of petition* had been violated or infringed. But to this complaint, trifling as comparatively it is, the British king and Parliament might have replied, according to Mr. Campbell's logic, 'We did not answer the remonstrances of Massachusetts in 1733 against the payment of all custom-house duties in gold and silver coin'; 'We did not answer the petitions of Virginia for the abolition of the slave trade. These and many other precedents, which might be named, justify our present silence on the subject of your pretended grievances, which we regard as no grievances at all.' Suppose a robber should undertake to reason us into a surrender of our pocket-book, by alleging as precedent, that he had taken one from us last year, and another the year before! Mr. Campbell lauded the New-Hampshire members, and flattered them with the idea that the noble stand they had taken and maintained, had been a severe rebuke to the abolitionists and their friends here; and had essentially assisted abolition to die away! He said it was evident that the '21st Rule' had greatly diminished the number of abolition petitions. Scarcely any were now offered, except by the gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Adams,) and the gentleman from Ohio, (Mr. Giddings.)

Mr. Burt, of S. C., spoke next. He disclaimed the opinions in favor of liberty, which had been imputed to the South. He said that the gentleman from New-York, (Mr. Beardsley,) might speak for the North, but he did not know what means he had of knowing the feelings of the West and South upon the subject of slavery. He (Mr. Burt) would not believe that the honest Knickerbockers or the gallant sons of the West, so eminent for patriotism, would ever prove faithless to their constitutional obligations. The gentleman had charitably said that the present generation of the South were not responsible for the existence of slavery. He begged leave to inform the gentleman that the present generation entertained the same opinions as were entertained by their ancestors, (a very improveable people, thought I.) Language was impotent to express the intensity of the scorn and contempt with which the people of his State regarded the upstart and huckstering morality of the North, which affected to hold up their domestic institutions to the odium of mankind. As their representative, he pronounced the assumption, that they held opinions unfavorable to slavery, to be offensive and impertinent.

Mr. Beardsley interposed, the floor being yielded for explanation. He inquired whether he was to understand, that the expression of an opinion, which gentlemen entertained on a subject before the House, was held by the gentlemen to be an impertinence.

Mr. Burt. I have said. (Here there was a breathless silence, as there always *is*, when it is supposed that there is fighting matter on the tapis.)

Mr. Beardsley exclaimed: Have things come to this pass, that gentlemen cannot say, on this floor, that there is, throughout this Union, but one opinion on the abstract question of slavery, without being charged with impertinence! This seemed to him very strange, and he threw back the imputation. He had always avoided the discussion of the subject of slavery, not because he did not feel at liberty to discuss it, but because he chose to avoid it.

Mr. Payne, of Alabama, wished to know whether it was competent for the gentleman from New-York to occupy the time allotted to another.

The Speaker replied, that the gentleman from S. C. had yielded the floor.

Mr. Beardsley desired Mr. Payne not to interfere in the matter, adding that 'he knew his business.'

Mr. Payne. I doubt if you do.

Mr. Burt proceeded to say that, as far as any epithets he might use on this floor were concerned, he would be responsible for them elsewhere. He contended that Congress had no power to abolish slavery anywhere, and that they possessed not a single function in relation to the subject, that was not intended to protect and sustain it. He then went on to show, by the votes of Massachusetts, how she had sustained the slave trade and slavery in the Convention that formed the Constitution. He would leave it to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Winthrop) to say, whether an institution which had been sustained by Massachusetts, deserved to be stigmatized as 'inhuman and abominable.'

Mr. Winthrop explained, that he had quoted from Mr. Randolph, of Virginia, who applied these words to the slave trade in this District.

Mr. Burt then entered into a review of the stipulations of the 'glorious old thirteen,' to protect and sustain slavery, and he called upon all the States to fulfil, in good faith, the solemn obligations they had contracted. They were bound not to interfere with the slave trade; they were bound to surrender fugitives from justice, and fugitive slaves; and here he made a bitter allusion to New-York, Massachusetts and Maine. They were bound to maintain the right of the South now assailed, to representation on account of this species of property; and they were bound to march to the swamps of Carolina, to suppress insurrections of slaves. This subject would not be discussed here, without producing insurrection there. If the horrible crisis must come, let it not come through the instrumentality of Congress. He alluded to the statement, that the abolitionists were few and contemptible; but they boasted of 30,000 votes, (he might have said 100,000,) and were increasing under a banner on which was inscribed 'rapine and blood.' This infamous party had enlisted the press and the pulpit in their service. They proclaimed their object to be the abolition of slavery upon earth; and in utter want of patriotism, they employed British agents to aid them in their object. In conclusion, he alluded to a declaration of Mr. Severance, that agitation would never stop, until Congress did its duty by abolishing slavery in this District. He would now say, that when discussion on that question took place here, it would be the last ever held by an American Congress! The South would regard it as a declaration of war; and when that came, the gentleman (Mr. S.) might not be safe even in his obscurity at the North. If there was an insurrection at the South, he trusted in God that those who excite it here, would go to the aid of their allies, and not a wretch of them would return to tell the story of their fate.

Soon after the delivery of this speech, I was asked, whether there was anything in it to answer. On a little reflection, although I had been considerably excited by the fierce and deadly passion which characterized it more than any speech I ever heard in Congress, I was constrained to say, that I could see nothing—absolutely nothing. I will not, therefore, occupy your valuable space in offering self-evident answers to this *terrible* tirade.

Mr. Dellet, of Alabama, referred to a declaration, which had been made by Mr. Giddings, in regard to the home squadron, that its object was to catch runaway slaves, and that the free States should be exempted from the guilt and infamy of having their flag used to cover such vile and illegal transactions! Was that flag disgraced, he demanded, when it was carried by the hands of slaveholders at Eutaw, at Camden, at Fort Moultrie, at Yorktown, at the Horseshoe, and at New-Orleans? Mr. D. enlarged, with great earnestness and with much detail, upon this topic. He seemed to forget, that if the flag had been carried in those cases in chase of runaway slaves, it would have been a great descent from the sublime to the ridiculous! It would have been a fall which his oration could not have survived. He alluded to an expression from Mr. Giddings, that he desired to wash his hands of the guilt and disgrace of slavery. He (Mr. D.) would tell him, that he could not wash his hands of it. His State had stained them. His State had entered into the compact, and taken upon herself the obligation to protect and defend the institution of slavery. There was not water enough in the ocean to wash his hands. He commented, with great vehemence, on Mr. Adams's famous expression at Pittsburg, that he did not know how abolition would come, 'but at all events, let it come.' (Here Mr. Adams bowed to Mr. D.) Then the orator described fanciful scenes of horror, which he said would be the inevitable result of abolition, appiating every sentence with, 'Let it come!'

'Let it come!' repeated Mr. Adams.

Mr. Dellet hoped God would forgive him for having preferred civil to military qualifications for a President of the United States. He expressed his sorrow that a gentleman, who had had such honors heaped upon him by his country, should use his great ability and influence as Mr. Adams was doing. It was the father of his country, whose memorial was before him, (pointing to the portrait of Washington,) who conferred upon him the earliest of those honors.

['And he emancipated his slaves,' said Mr. Adams.]

Mr. Dellet did not undertake any reply to this sally, but went on to appeal to Mr. Adams as the only man, who had moral power, and occupied a position, which would enable him to quiet this agitation, and save his country. Mr. D. made several sudden transitions from the severest invective, to the highest eulogy. For instance, he accused Mr. Adams of pouring into the ears of a slaveholder, charges of treason against his own friends; and directly after said that all the honors he had received from his country were merited! He alluded to the authority of Madison, which had been adduced in favor of the power of Congress to abolish slavery in the District, and said that gentlemen had argued their cause in the manner of the country courts; and then read from Madison the opinion, that it would be an inconceivable usurpation of power for Congress to abolish slavery.

Mr. Rogers, of New-York, made an excellent argument in favor of the power, and the duty of using it. He showed, by reference to Madison's speech, which had been quoted by the gentleman from Alabama, that Mr. M. was speaking of slavery in the States, and that there was not the remotest allusion therein to the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia. He quoted Mr. Jefferson's letter to Dr. Price, in which he thanks him for discussing the subject of American slavery, and in reference to the supposition that Americans approved of slavery, he declares that the universal opinion is against it. Admitting, however, that there were a few in the South who dissented, he added, 'so, likewise, are these robbers and murderers.' At the reading of this passage, many eyes were directed to the seat of Mr. Burt. Mr. R. read specimens of the pointed and touching eloquence, with which Patrick Henry condemned slavery, and deplored its existence. Mr. Rogers, in reply to a sneer by a gentleman from Mississippi at Gov. Seward, and the State of New-York, pronounced an admirable vindication of Mr. Seward's character, and contrasted that of the State with the repudiating State of Mississippi! On this topic, he was truly eloquent, saying, among other things, that war, pestilence and famine would be endured, their evils repaired, and prosperity and happiness restored; but for a State, whose promises were deliberately broken, there was no hope. It was moral and political death.

Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, endeavored to obtain the floor for explanation, but Mr. Rogers declined to yield it.

To-day, (Saturday,) Mr. Dromgoole, of Virginia, moved to amend the report of the committee, by striking out nearly all of it, and substituting a set of rules and orders, containing the same old gag.

Mr. Cave Johnson, of Tenn., moved to amend, by substituting for Mr. Dromgoole's amendment a rule, directing that all petitions, touching slavery and the slave trade, shall be *received*, and laid upon the table without any further action thereon. Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, made a few remarks, in which he said he did not care how this subject was disposed of; but he did care a great deal that gentlemen should show their hands; that northern democrats and southern whigs should declare themselves clearly, and then the South would know how to take her measures. A motion to lay the whole subject on the table was lost by a considerable majority: the friends of the gag generally voted YEA. Other motions approaching to tests of the strength of parties were carried in favor of liberty. It is thought that the prospect of overthrowing the infamous and daring tyranny, to which we have been for ten years subjected, has improved since Burt's speech. D. L. C.

WASHINGTON, March 2, 1844.

DEAR GARRISON:

This has been an eventful week. The flattering prospect of getting rid of the GAG has quite vanished from our view. On Tuesday, a *direct* vote, for the first time this session, was taken in a full House upon that question. It was prefaced by a speech of Mr. Cave Johnson, of Tennessee, in which he stated very frankly that, in his opinion, the '21st rule' was lost; that they [the South] had been able to sustain the Pinckney, the Patton, the Atherton, and Cost Johnson's rule for excluding the abolition petitions, only by the help of the democrats of the North; that the South was no longer united on this subject, nineteen Southern whigs having voted on Saturday against the existing rule; that they could not reasonably expect the Northern democrats to stand by them, when they were thus deserted by Southern whigs, and he urged them to abandon the rule excluding the petitions, and to fall back upon one, which he proposed, allowing the *reception* of them, and laying them on the table, without debate or further action, which was substantially the Atherton rule. This proposition was rejected, and so the House came to the naked question of sustaining the '21 Rule.' On this question, the vote stood, yeas 85, nays 106. This seemed to be a decisive victory; but the joy of our friends was chastened by considerable apprehension, that the majority might not prove firm on the question, which remained to be decided, of incorporating the rules, as amended, with the body of the rules of the House. During the evening of that day, the most strenuous exertions were made, as they had been also the evening previous, to bring back the Northern democrats to their first love. These exertions were successful, so far as to change *nine* Northern democratic votes, and to procure the absence from the House, on Wednesday, of eight Northern democrats and two whigs, (from Indiana and Illinois,) who had voted against the gag on Tuesday. In this state of things, our friends sought, first of all, on that day, to get a call of the House, which would have brought the absentees to their seats. This, of course, was defeated by the very circumstances which made it necessary.—The question was taken on laying the whole subject of amending the rules on the table, leaving, of course, the rules of the last Congress in force, because those rules had been adopted at the beginning of the session, until the House should otherwise order. By means of no little legerdemain betwixt the Speaker and Clerk, (a very ferocious and unscrupulous character from Ohio,) the announcement of the result was shuffled off until they were sure of a majority, and then the vote was declared—for laying on the table, 88: against it, 87.

Mr. Reding, of N. H., one of the faithfulest of the faithful, immediately moved a reconsideration of the vote, so that this motion could not be made by an adversary on the following day, when the House would be full. Thus the vote was *clinched*.

Mr. Adams immediately rose and gave notice, that he should, the next day, call up the report of the committee on the rules. This is the report of the majority made by himself; but it is understood that, in the present state of the thing, this report cannot be taken up without the concurrence of two-thirds.

Mr. R. D. Davis, of New-York, who, notwithstanding his perverse speech at the beginning of the session, has stood firmly, and, considering all things, nobly for our rights, gave notice that, on next resolution day, he should move to rescind the '21st Rule.'

The manœuvres of our foes, for wresting from us the well-won victory of Tuesday, were greatly facilitated by a *fete*, given by Capt. Stockton, on board the steam frigate Princeton, on Wednesday. Members, whose wives were in the city, were specially invited on that day, and this furnished an innocent pretext for absence from the House. Of the awful scene, which ensued on board that ill-fated ship in the midst of wine, and wassail, and beautiful women, you need not now be told. There was the concentration of pride, splendor, official dignity, and patriotic scorn. The gun, called THE PEACE-MAKER, was supposed to be capable of subduing and humiliating any foe of our country, and its 'peculiar institutions.' Scarcely five minutes before the fatal explosion, Mr. Upshur, the Secretary of State, said to the Mexican minister, in a jocular but significant tone, 'This is a very important matter; at this rate, a gun may be made, which will reach *Mexico*.' A gun was made which reached *him*.

Only the Monday (two days) preceding, the President sent a message to the two Houses, recommending that several ships of war should be immediately built on the principle of the Princeton; and that a naval depot should be constructed on the Mississippi. The *Texan* Charge had been in close and earnest conversation with Mr. Upshur much of the morning; and was at his side, when the catastrophe occurred. It is generally understood, in the Congressional circles, that Mr. Upshur had a treaty of annexation nearly or quite ready to be submitted to the Senate for ratification. Mr. Gilmer, Secretary of the Navy, who resigned his seat in Congress a few days ago, received the resolutions of the Texan Congress in favor of annexation, to be made the basis of legislative action here, if deemed expedient. Mr. Benton of the Senate, who has been endeavoring to prevent negotiation, and get up a war on the Oregon question, was present, and was thrown down and stunned by the explosion. You are aware that he was the earliest, and has been a most strenuous advocate for the annexation of Texas. His aim is and has long been *war*; but he has lost his most trusty and efficient coadjutors. The general opinion is, that he will be sobered, and in a measure subdued by this awful interposition.

The movement in the Massachusetts Legislature, in relation to their Senators, has excited an unusual interest here. I will not speak upon that, nor its causes any further than to say, that I think Massachusetts has outgrown the representation which she has now in the Senate of the United States.

D. L. C.

Convention at Reading.

DEAR FRIEND:

The Liberator of last week mentions that the opening meeting at Reading was encouraging: the succeeding ones were still more so. On the following day, the meetings were much fuller, and friends present from Andover and Stoneham. An old clergyman named Sanborn, attended, and during the afternoon, made a few remarks, in which he confessed that he had, perhaps, in times past, kept his feelings a little too much in his bosom, and telling the story of the council of mice proposing to bell the cat, asked how we should bell slavery. It struck me as a strange confession, coming from a clergyman, that a clergyman bears the same relation to the power of sin, that a mouse does to a cat. I had supposed it was directly contrary; but this belief of his will explain the inefficiency of the preaching of the present time, since the priest has no faith in God's power, for the overthrowing of evil. The Liberty party cast 112 votes in Reading, and yet the church has only reached the *high moral* point of Dea. Dodge's resolutions. There are a few thoroughgoing friends of the slave, who will keep up a healthy excitement in the place.

Reuben Weston carried us to Lowell, to keep the appointment on the 22d. As a report has appeared in the Liberator of this meeting, any detailed account of it will be useless. I regretted that Garrison allowed himself to be questioned, by some of the clergy, who, in a jesuitical way, came into the meeting, and asked questions about matters which had no concern with anti-slavery, and will probably charge us with bringing in extraneous matters. The meetings were crowded, to the capacity of the buildings in which they were held. The Hutchinsons joined us here, and gave a great interest to the Convention.

On Saturday morning, we held a meeting in Groton. This was the spot, where GEORGE THOMPSON made his first speech in this country, and has had more anti-slavery labor than any other place in the State. Many of the best abolitionists have become Millerites, and lost their interest in the cause. The Orthodox and Unitarian churches are dead on the subject. The Baptist house was thrown open for a Sunday evening meeting, and was crowded full to hear Douglass hold up the sins of the church of this country with regard to the slave. James Boyle, G. W. Benson, and Pillsbury, held a free meeting the same evening in Liberty Hall, but the attendance was small. The Liberty party is small in this place.

On Monday afternoon, we commenced our meeting in Townsend, in an old church at present occupied by the Christian Baptists. On entering the church, our eyes were greeted with a sad testimony of the falseness of the religion of the last half century. It was a Jim Crow pew, perched high up on the side of the house, far above the gallery, and accessible by a private staircase. I found an old man, a resident when the church was re-built, which was in 1804, and this damning stain on the christianity of the country was added. He said it was then called the nigger pew, and nobody thought any thing of it. I made a pilgrimage to it; and as I set in it, sadness came over me at the long array of persecution against the colored man which it brought to my mind. How the demons in hell must smile at the hypocrisy of that religion, which preaches the brotherhood of man, and says to a sixth part of the nation, 'Stand aside! I am holier than thou.' The pew has not been used for many years, and was filled with old laws of the State, which were probably in keeping with the bloody spirit that framed the place. The Hutchinsons gave us a song from the pew during the convention, and exorcised the spirit that resided there. On the first day, we had a party of friends from New-Hampshire, and on the morning of the second day, a party of 30 or more came over from Fitchburgh, and gave quite an interest to our meeting. Various persons took part in the debates, and a good spirit pervaded the meeting. This is one of the coldest towns in the Commonwealth. Mr. Stowell, a former orthodox minister here, was a prominent man in new organization, and succeeded in killing all the anti-slavery nearly in the place; having choked the morality of others, he lost his own, and was turned out of his pulpit for various sins, which showed he was human in his nature, however divine his call. His successor is little better. He did not read our notice, and was not in attendance. One orthodox clergyman came some distance, to *hear the singing*. I suppose he makes up his want of inward harmony by the outward sign. Mr. Eastman, the clergyman of the church, closed our meeting with some remarks, in which he approved of the meeting, though he had been alarmed by some of the severity. The Hutchinsons left us at Townsend, to return to their mountain home. They have been of great use, and added a strong interest to the meetings, while in private they have served to make the time pass most pleasantly.

On the evening of Tuesday, we had a blocking snow-storm, which closed up the roads, and prevented our reaching Acton till 7 o'clock Wednesday evening.

Pillsbury left us at Groton, to return home, as his health was not sufficiently strong to permit him to go on.

The meetings, so far, have been most encouraging, as we have been in one of the hardest parts of the State. We have got people out, who never heard an anti-slavery lecture before.

The question is constantly asked, 'What shall we do?'

Wherever we have been, we have been kindly received, and I find that hospitality is not peculiarly a Western virtue.

Yours, W. A. W.

Watertown, March 1st, 1844.

THE HUNDRED CONVENTIONS
IN MASSACHUSETTS.

☞ All the Conventions which last two days will begin at 1 o'clock, P. M. of the day first named. Where only one day is named, they will commence at 10 A. M.

Conventions in *Plymouth* and *Barnstable* counties will be attended by S. S. Foster, Charles L. Remond, and J. M. Spear, and will take place as follows:

Sandwich—Thursday and Friday, 7th and 8th.
Hyannis—Saturday, 9th.
Dennis—Monday and Tuesday, 11th and 12th.
Orleans—Wednesday and Thursday, 13th and 14th.
Barnstable—Saturday, 16th.
Wareham—Tuesday, 19th.

After which, the same eloquent advocates of the slave's cause will make a tour through Bristol, and then through Essex county.

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Conventions in *Middlesex* and *Norfolk* will be attended by Parker Pillsbury, Frederick Douglass, and Wm. A. White; and will take place as follows:

Needham—Friday, 8th.
Medford—Monday, 11th.
Waltham—Wednesday and Thursday, 13th and 14th.

Othes appointments in Norfolk county will be made in future papers.

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Conventions in *Worcester* county will be attended by Abby Kelley, Dr. E. D. Hudson, S. H. Gay, G. W. Stacey, &c.; and will be held as follows:

Southern Series.

Hardwick—Friday and Saturday, 8th and 9th.
Leicester—Monday and Tuesday, 11th and 12th.
Oxford—Wednesday and Thursday, 13th and 14th.
Northbridge—Friday and Saturday, 15th and 16th.
Millbury—Monday and Tuesday, 18th and 19th.
Upton—Wednesday and Thursday, 20th and 21st.
Grafton—Friday and Saturday, 22d and 23d.

Northern Series.

Boylston—Monday and Tuesday, March 25th and 26th.
Holden—Wednesday, 27th.
Rutland—Thursday and Friday, 28th and 29th.
Princeton—Saturday and Sunday, 30th and 31st.
Westminster—Monday and Tuesday, April 1st and 2d.
Leominster—Wednesday and Thursday, 3d and 4th.
Fitchburg—Friday and Saturday, 5th and 6th.
Ashburnham—Monday and Tuesday, 8th and 9th.
Gardner—Wednesday and Thursday, 10th and 11th.
Hubbardston—Friday and Saturday, 12th and 13th.
Petersham—Monday and Tuesday, 15th and 16th.
Athol—Wednesday and Thursday, 17th and 18th.

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☞ The friends of the cause in the above named towns and their immediate vicinity are urgently requested to take every means of giving the widest possible notice of these meetings. Let *each* one consider this *his own personal* duty. See to it, also, that convenient places for assembling are obtained, so as to secure large audiences. Let all that can, be present, especially those who are willing to take a part in the discussions; and thus, while they relieve the agents, give added interest to the debate. We mean to awaken the old, and create a new anti-slavery zeal throughout the Commonwealth. The most important questions are to be discussed by the ablest and most devoted of the friends of the slave. We commend them to the hospitality of the friends every where, and hope that especially they will be aided in getting from place to place, to lessen the labor and expense of the whole undertaking. Any town which does not receive large printed placards to notify the meetings of the Convention during its session, can be supplied by applying at 25 Cornhill.

WENDELL PHILLIPS,
Gen. Agent Mass. A. S. Society.

Annexation of Texas.

The Report on this subject, to the Senate, by Chas. F. Adams, is, as a whole, a spirited document, and would have been more promptly published by us, if we had been able to procure a copy of it, at an earlier period. The resolutions appended to it, that have been almost unanimously adopted by the Senate and House, are good, but not so decided in their tone as the emergency requires. In case of annexation, the Legislature should declare the Union dissolved.

Senators Bates and Choate.

No definite action has yet been taken by our Legislature, in regard to the craven course of these Senators in Congress. Why this delay? Dare the Whigs in that body pass over this outrage, and presume on being sustained by the people?

Insurrection at Matanzas!

By the arrival of the bark Sharron, Lucas, at New-York, from Matanzas on the 20th February, intelligence is received that, on the day previous to her sailing, an insurrection had broken out among the slaves on the plantations in the neighborhood of that place, and it was supposed that their plan of operations had been concerted throughout that part of the Island.—The people from the country were hastening to the city for protection—great numbers had already arrived. An engineer on one of the plantations had been thrown into one of the sugar boilers and scalded to death. An inhabitant of Matanzas, having 400 slaves on his estate, had put one hundred in irons the day Capt. L. sailed. Several soldiers had started in different directions, to endeavor to quell the disturbances.

Capital Punishment.

In the Massachusetts House of Representatives, on the 2d instant, Mr. Chandler presented the Report of the Committee on Capital Punishment, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, on the ground that Commissioners had been appointed in 1837 to revise and reduce the whole criminal law of the State to a systematic code—who had presented a Report which was now before a Joint Special Committee. Mr. Newhall, of Saugus, presented a minority report. Both Reports were ordered to be printed. We trust the latter will be adopted by the Legislature, believing that the people of Massachusetts are prepared to abolish the gallows.

☞ The President and his son, John Tyler, Jr. Esq., had a narrow escape while returning from the burial ground, after attending the funeral of Messrs. Upshur, Gilmer, and Kennon, owing to the horses attached to their carriage taking fright—although we are happy to state no injury ensued.

CONVENTION AT MILFORD. The following important resolution, which was ably discussed by Wendell Phillips, Abby Kelley, Adin Ballou, and others, was accidentally omitted in the account of the proceedings of this spirited Convention, in our last number:

'Resolved, That no abolitionist can throw a vote for any candidate for office, under the United States Constitution, without being utterly recreant to his principles, and a traitor to the slave's cause.'

☞ We have received a copy of the Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital, for the year 1843. It is in pamphlet form, occupying more than 60 pages. Accompanying the Report is a very interesting treatise on Insanity, written by Luther V. Bell, Physician and Superintendent of the McLean Asylum for the Insane.

ITEMS.

Annexation of Texas.—The House of Representatives of Mississippi, on the 11th inst. adopted a series of resolutions, by a vote of 61 to 10, instructing the Senators and requesting the Representatives in Congress from that State, 'to urge zealously and perseveringly, the immediate and indissoluble annexation, by treaty, of the Republic of Texas to the United States; and declaring that, if the desired annexation should not be effected, the acquisition of a paramount influence in the councils of Texas by any European power would be incompatible with the rights, interest and tranquillity of the United States, and that any attempt directed thereto, ought to be considered by the United States sufficient cause for war.

Nicholas Biddle died at his seat near Philadelphia, on Tuesday morning last, aged fifty-eight years. His last illness was accompanied by great suffering. He was educated at Princeton, New Jersey, where he was graduated at the age of fifteen. In 1804 he went to France as secretary to General Armstrong, the American minister. At the age of twenty-two he returned to Philadelphia, where he engaged in the practice of law. In 1810 he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and in 1814 to the Senate. In 1819, President Monroe made him government director of the Bank of the United States, and four years afterwards, on the resignation of Langdon Cheves, he was elected its president.

An Affray.—We find the following in the Lexington (Ky.) Inquirer, of Thursday:

'We understand that about eight or ten days ago a dispute arose between Major Woolfolk and Mr. Uriah Chilton, in Versailles, about the price or delivery of some hemp, which brought on a scuffle, during which Mr. Chilton received several wounds by a pocket-knife. At first, it was thought the wounds were not serious: but yesterday morning it was thought Mr. Chilton was dying, a cut near the temple having produced inflammation of the brain. Major Woolfolk was held to bail in the sum of $6000 to appear at the March term of the Woodford circuit court.

Dreadful Assault.—On Wednesday night, between 8 and 10 o'clock, Charles Steele, Jr., a steady and inoffensive citizen, was attacked on the Spring Hill road, and dreadfully beaten. He was found lying insensible about day light, and conveyed to his father's residence. His pockets were turned inside out, and every thing valuable about him was missing. The wounds he received were principally upon the head. Last evening, we were informed, there was no hope entertained of his living over the night.—*Mobile Tribune, Feb.* 10.

Brutal Outrage.—Two young men, named Jennings and Pulver, living in the east part of this town, committed a brutal outrage upon the person of a young girl, about 17 years old, whose name is *Jones*, on Tuesday last. The girl and her mother were overtaken by Jennings and Pulver with a sleigh, who asked them to ride. After riding a short distance, the mother suspecting something wrong, jumped from the sleigh and endeavored to get the girl out, but was prevented by the young men, who drove off into the woods and accomplished their purposes. Warrants were procured next morning for their arrest. Jennings was arrested in this village by Sheriff Scott, but immediately escaped: Pulver has not been seen since the day the crime was perpetrated.—*Genesee Republican, Feb.* 20.

Melancholy Disaster.—I regret to learn the loss of the sch. Pulaski, Capt. Wm. Magee, in the Chesapeake Bay, with all on board, viz: The Captain, Robert Byers, George Wilson, Samuel Bartlett, and Richard Jones. Captain Magee has left a wife and several children, and was a resident of the District of Southwark, where also resided those who perished with him. Their bodies have not yet been recovered, but the deck of the vessel, with the sails, trunks, vessel's papers, clothes, money, &c. was washed ashore on Fox's Island, near which the disaster occurred. —*Philadelphia Correspondent of the Tribune.*

Supposed Murder.—The Vermont Caledonian states, that the body of a young man named Eastman was found a few days since in his father's barn, in Topsham, with a bloody face, and other signs of outrage. The evening previous he went to a spelling school, against the wishes of his parents, ill feelings were excited, but he was known to return to the house. Mrs. Eastman, step-mother to the young man, had not lived in very friendly relations with him. *His parents are supposed to be his murderers.*

Murder.—John Woods of Tazewell county, Ill. has been committed to jail on the charge of inhumanly killing his own child, only ten months old. It was proved against him that he tried to get the physician to kill the child when it was born.

Rev. H. C. Taylor, late of the Oberlin Institute, convicted, on his own confession, of attempting to effect an abortive birth, has been sentenced, at Elyria, Ohio, to pay a fine of two hundred dollars, and the costs of prosecution. On three indictments for stealing he pleaded guilty, and was fined for each offence $25. Nine other indictments were withdrawn.

Carter Beverly, Esq. till lately and for many years a resident of Culpepper county, Va. died at Fredericksburgh on the 10th ult., in the 72d year of his age. The deceased, says the Fredericksburgh Herald, was one of the most remarkable men of his day. Reared in affluence, and connected with several of the most influential and enlightened families of Virginia, his early associations were among many of the most distinguished men of our revolution.

Death of Hon. John Leeds Kerr.—The Easton Gazette of Saturday last, brings us the melancholy intelligence of the death of the Hon. J. L. Kerr, late Senator from Maryland, whose time of service expired on the 4th of March last. He died at his late residence in Easton, (Md.) on the 21st inst., in the 65th year of his age.

Hon. Albert Hos, a distinguished Creole citizen of Louisiana, and for some time member of the State Senate, died at New-Orleans on the 14th ult. after a short and painful illness.

ADELPHIC UNION LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The lecture on Tuesday evening, March 12, will be delivered by Rev. John Pierpont.

To commence at 8 o'clock precisely.

CHAS. A. BATTISTE, *Sec.*

MARRIED.—In this city, 5th inst, by Rev. Samuel Snowden, Mr. Joseph L. White, to Miss Ann Scott, both of this city.

DIED—In this city, suddenly, March 4th, Mr. Henry Elliott, aged 22 years.

In Greenfield, Feb. 21, Sarah W. wife of Amazida G. Lucas, aged 20 years. [Printers in Vermont are requested to copy.]

FRESH SUPPLIES.

THE second edition of Letters from New-York, by Mrs. Child, and the 'Brotherhood of Thieves,' by S. S. Foster, have been received at the Anti-Slavery Depository, No. 25, Cornhill.

Also, a few copies of the 'Heresy of a Human Priesthood.' 'Exposition of Difficulties in West Brookfield, connected with Anti-Slavery Operations.' Anti-Slavery Melodies, &c.

The Sick Man's Friend.

BEING a plain practical medical work, on vegetable or botanical principles, designed for the use of families and individuals. In six parts. By Dr. P. E. Sanborn. Second edition. Just published, and for sale by WILLIAM JOHNSON, rear of 47 Hanover St. Price $1 00, boued in calf—a most valuable work.

ROBERT B. LEWIS, author of Light and Truth, would inform the subscribers to his work, that it is now published, and the four numbers are bound together and ready for delivery, and would caution all those who kindly subscribed

POETRY.

From the Practical Christian.

HYMN.

Written for the Anti-Slavery Meeting in Hopkinton.

BY A. M. P.

In the southern canebrakes wailing,
Sep our suffering brother stand;
Hear the chain and fetter trailing,
See the iron gall his hand:
Mourning brother! who can loose that cruel band?

See that mother's bosom bleeding—
From her love a child is torn;
Time with rapid step is speeding—
Soon away her child is borne.
Mourning mother! what can cheer thy heart forlorn?

Where the glorious sunlight beaming,
Bathes the warm and fertile plain;
Human blood is daily streaming,
To enlarge a tyrant's gain:
Mourning brother! there thy blood is poured like rain!

Is there for this guilty nation
Hope for all this crime and woe?
Will the waters of salvation
O'er the dismal rice-swamp flow?
Mourning captive! this would cheer thy heart to know.

Bondman, there is hope in heaven—
God doth hear thy bitter cries;
'Let the galling chain be riven,'
He is speaking from the skies:
Mourning captive! Freedom's sun will soon arise!

Light is breaking forth in beauty,
Burning words of love are spoke;
Human hearts shall learn their duty;
God will break the oppressor's yoke;
Mourning captive! *Love* will break the oppressor's yoke!

MORNING MEDITATIONS.

BY THOMAS HOOD.

Let Taylor preach upon a morning breezy;
How well to rise while night and larks are flying—
For my part, getting up seems not so easy
By half as LYING.

What if the lark does carol in the sky,
Soaring beyond the sight to find him out—
Wherefore am I to rise at such a fly?
I'm not a trout.

Tell not to me of bees and such like hums,
They smell of sweet herbs at the morning prime—
Only lie long enough, and bed becomes
A bed of TIME.

To me Dan Phœbus and his cars are naught,
His steeds that paw impatiently about;
Let them enjoy, say I, as horses ought,
The first turn-out.

Right beautiful the dewy meads appear,
Besprinkled by the rosy fingered girl—
What then—if I prefer my pillow dear
To early KEARL?

My stomach is not ruled by other men's,
And, grumbling for a season, quaintly begs,
Wherefore should master rise before the hens
Have laid the eggs?

Why from a comfortable pillow start,
To see faint flushes in the east awaken—
A fig, say I, for any streaky part,
Excepting bacon.

An early riser Mr. Gray has drawn,
Who used to haste the dewy grass among,
To meet the sun upon the upland lawn—
Well—he died young.

With charwomen do such early hours agree,
And sweeps that earn betimes their bite and sup,
But I'm no climbing boy, and will not be
All up—all up!

So here I'll lie, my morning call deferring
'Till something nearer to the stroke of noon;
A man that's fond precociously of STIRRING,
Must be a SPOON.

SONG OF THE CLOUDS.

BY J. H. R. BAYLEY.

A song for our home! our azure home!
Where, trackless as the winds, we roam:
Our flight how fair—and our range how bright,
Borne, as we are, through streams of light!
We have our chambers richly graced,
Emerald hung and amber faced;
As the glorious orb of day retires,
We live in the flush of his purple fires;
And hail aloft in our fleecy cars,
The bright-horned moon and her train of stars.

Over the vast blue vault we roll,
And span the heavens from pole to pole.
We gird but our sable garments on—
The skies are black, and the sunlight's gone.
We give the young live thunder birth,
And send a deluge o'er the earth;
'Tis ours to cast the dark grey gloom
O'er the chiselled face of the churchyard tomb;
And shed an influence deep and chill,
Wherever we wish, and whenever we will.

Our robes we change with a master hand,
Vary their hues, as our forms expand;
The rainbow's arched on our aisles of jet,
In our halls of mist its beauty's set.
The music of a myriad spheres
In the midnight calm salutes our ears;
We never disperse, but our tints we fling
O'er the noblest object and meanest thing—
And mellow down the eye of day,
As we pass in the bloom of our beauty away.

From the Boston Courier.

AMELIA NORMAN.

'The prisoner was attended in court by Mrs. Hopper, a Quaker lady, and Mrs David L. Child.'—*Newspaper Report.*

The brand is on her cheek—stand back, proud world;
And let her perish like a down-trod leaf—
Aye, only mock her when she asks relief:
Down to perdition let her soul be hurled,
And in the eddying gulf of woe be whirled—
For *him*, whose beastly lust has brought her shame,
Whose guile has doomed her to eternal flame,
Be every sail of prosperous life unfurled;
On other charms he feeds, nor recks her moan.
As looks the blinded world, so looks not God—
So looked not ye, ye noble pair, whose throne
Of high-raised thought obeyed not fashion's nod;
Who dared to breast the vulgar shame, with one
Whose name was evil, by the public trod.

C. C. B

RICH AND POOR.

BY L. E. LANDON.

Few, save the poor, feel for the poor;
The rich know not how hard
It is to be of needful food
And needful rest debarred.

Their paths are paths of plenteousness,
They sleep on silks and down;
And never think how wearily
The weary head lies down.

They know not of the scanty meal,
With small, pale faces round;
No fire upon the cold, damp hearth,
When snow is on the ground.

They never by the window lean,
And see the gay pass by;
Then take their weary task again,
But with a sadder eye.

REFORMATORY.

From the Nantucket Inquirer.

Does the Gospel Justify Capital Punishment?

In obtaining signatures to the petition for the abolition of capital punishment, I have had to answer almost every sort of argument. That assumed by the religionist, so called, is the *least* reconcilable. He always prefaces his refusal to sign, by going to the authority of Noah! 'Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed.' Now this mis-translation is the end of the law, for capital punishment, and all manner of violence. The *true* rendering is—'*Whatsoever* sheddeth man's blood, &c.' and this version is in accordance with the law of Moses—see Exodus, chap. 21. But admitting the translation to be the *original* reading, what is its signification? It is neither more nor less than the law of retaliation, the rendering of 'an eye for an eye,' &c., and Jesus expressly and unequivocally forbids this, and says, moreover—'A *new* commandment *I* give unto you, that ye *love* one another.' And Paul says—'Love *is the fulfilling* of the law.' True, says the professor, but 'WE CAN HANG A MAN IN LOVE'!!! So said the pious Puritans, when they hanged Mary Dyer on Boston common; and in this way every religious bigot has justified himself, even in the hottest persecution, when human blood has flowed in torrents, upon the most trifling difference of opinion; an opinion involving no greater principle, perhaps, than the celebration of Easter; whether it shall be observed *to-day* or *to-morrow*.

Again, and again, I have asked the advocate of capital punishment to point me to a *single* example or precept of Jesus, authorizing it; and *in failure* of this, he has pointed me to the Apostles. Thither I look in vain for its sanction; but, even if I found it, I would not accept the testimony, *if it conflicted with that of the blessed Master*—our heavenly example—our perfect pattern. The Apostles were subject to human infirmity, else Jesus would never have said to Peter—'Get thee behind me, Satan,' &c. How often, in this connexion, have I had to ask whether Paul is to be followed in the circumcision of Timothy, and the adoption of the Nazarites' vow; whether Peter is to be followed in those things in which 'he was to be blamed;' when he 'walked not uprightly according to the truths of the gospel;' when he dissembled; when 'he compelled the Gentiles to live as did the Jews,' &c. &c.? Did he not also deny his Lord and Master with an oath, and sever the ear of the High Priest's servant? The record is to the point, 'We also are men of like passions with you,' else would not 'the contention have been so sharp' between some of them, that they could not travel together in the promulgation of the gospel of Christ!! Again, Paul baptized with water for a time, but when he became *more enlightened*, he thanked God that he had baptized so few, saying, 'For Christ sent me *not* to baptize,' &c.

I, however, *generally* found a willing response to the petition, and I did not marvel that some refused their name, when I reflected upon the influences to which they had been subject. Why does man depend so much upon the opinion of another? Why does he not exercise his own free moral agency, and practice upon the advice of Him who spoke as never man spake, viz. 'Yea, and why, even of *yourselves*, judge ye not what is right?'

I witnessed this subserviency on a memorable occasion a year or two since. I was travelling in a neighboring State, when I received an invitation to visit an acquaintance. I was introduced to 'the minister' and many of the prominent members of his flock, all of them entire strangers to me. Tea time came, and as we drew around the table, I observed a preparation for some vocal ceremony. I think every one then *stood* around the table. Our repast being concluded, another offering was made, when every one but myself *knelt*. The invocation or 'thank-offering,' embodied what is termed the Lord's Prayer. Well, thought I, I shall find this man an advocate of the law of love—'the Christianity of Jesus,' as he has prayed that *his own* trespasses may be forgiven, as he forgives those of *his brother*. I thought, too, I had a right to this opinion from the acknowledgment he made at the tea-table, that 'really there was too much truth in the allegations of S. S. Foster, Abby Kelley, and Wm. Lloyd Garrison, against the slaveholding and war-making Christianity of the age;' but this, as the sequel will show, was said in a very qualified sense. A conversation of several hours ensued. Assembled were the minister and the *leading* members of his flock. It was an interesting occasion, but I came to one conclusion, and it was this—that precisely as the minister thought, so thought each individual of that large and interesting company. Noble souls were there—there was woman, with a countenance beaming with intelligence, and yet, if it does not imply a contradiction, so trammelled, so circumscribed, so automaton-like, that instead of shining in *her own* original *brightness* and *beauty*, she but remitted the *shadow* of superstition, bigotry and tradition, which had been reflected upon her!

I found that the minister was the champion of law, of legal jurisprudence, the defender of capital punishment, &c. &c. He plead forcibly for the observance of human laws; that we should 'obey magistrates,' and 'honor the king.' I called on him for the example of his Master in those particulars. He spoke of the tribute money, and the injunction to 'render to Cæsar,' &c. I told him I found no difficulty in these passages; that *he* assumed for them an *unwarrantable* interpretation, and especially so, if he believed in that scripture, which, in describing the efficiency of Christ's kingdom, invests it with no *ordinary* power—viz. that it *shall dash* to pieces and *consume* all other kingdoms.

I proceeded to recapitulate text after text, in maintenance of the above position, from the mouth of Jesus himself, which I reserve for the concluding number. I thought as I again looked around upon the company before me, what a pity it was, they would not read for themselves, having reference to the admonition before quoted—'Yea, and why even of yourselves, judge ye not what is right?' How *different*, then, would be their conclusions!

B.

From the Massachusetts Spy.

Oppression.

MR. EDITOR:

I wish to call the attention of your readers to certain opinions entertained by the present incumbent of the chaplaincy of the Massachusetts State Prison. A short time since, he stated to a Committee of the Governor's Council that 'his views of duty impelled him to exclude all religious books from the prison, which, in *his judgment*, are subversive of the great and leading truths and doctrines of the gospel—in particular those which advocate and maintain the peculiar views and tenets of the Roman Catholics, the Universalists, and the Unitarians.'

Now, Sir, it is not my purpose to quarrel with the Reverend gentleman's views of the teachings of scripture. To him, as to the vilest criminal in that prison, I would extend the utmost freedom of religious toleration. But, if I mistake not, it is one of the proudest boasts of the Massachusetts people, that they are protected by their Constitution and laws in the enjoyment no less of *religious* than of civil liberty; and I have yet to learn what crime so heinous a citizen of ours can commit, as to occasion the forfeiture of his *religious* freedom.

Every man, even the most reckless rum-seller, to whom the violation of the laws of God and man is a source of support, every man has a religion of his own, and with it an inalienable right to its enjoyment. For his crimes, you may incarcerate his body, load his limbs with chains, and lacerate his flesh with the merciless scourge; but, beware! Neither your laws nor their penalties have any right of power over 'the eternal spirit of the chainless mind.'

I wish to be informed, if it is by any other than *right of power* that the Rev Mr. Curtis would enforce upon the prisoners under his spiritual charge, the perusal of those works which advocate his own peculiar views. Does he hold his commission from heaven, that he should say to them, 'You shall read these or none; you shall hear no prayer to our common God, in which the divinity of Christ is not acknowledged, though to your view it may seem worse than the idolatry of heathen lands?' Does he not almost in words assert, 'I and my sect are right; all the world beside are wrong?' By what divine authority does he say to those unfortunate criminals, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; walk ye in it?' What manner of man is he, and whence hath he this authority?

Religious freedom is the common gift of God to all men; and the Constitution of Massachusetts cannot, does not attempt to withhold it from any beneath her protecting shield.

There are a large number of people in this once priest-ridden Commonwealth, who would be greatly obliged to the Reverend chaplain, if he would condescend to show them by what human or divine right he has taken upon himself the cruel office of spiritual punisher to the State criminals.

And should he succeed in doing this, he will lay us under still further obligations, by pointing out in what way such a procedure on his part will promote the moral reformation of the prisoners whose views may accord with those of the proscribed sects; and, no doubt, a majority of the convicts are of this class. The one great object of our prison discipline is TO REFORM, not to punish; and the office of chaplain was instituted for the purpose of aiding, not of retarding this reformation. He is not to make proselytes, but to inculcate those great moral truths in which all our citizens agree. Beyond this, his sphere of duty does not extend. Should he persist in the other course, he may, ere long, hear the command from a source higher than that from which he holds his office—'Thou mayst be no longer steward.'

This, Mr. Editor, is but one of the million instances afforded by the history of our own State, of clerical encroachments upon the rights of the people. Nor by our history alone; that of the whole world, christian and pagan, civilized and savage, almost compels us to believe what an able writer has affirmed, 'That the order of the priesthood have ever manifested a disposition to become the enslavers of our race.'

Is it not enough that the institutions of this country should be constantly exposed to the blighting influences of party politics? Must the accursed spirit of religious sectarianism be added to the social and political evils which endanger the permanency of our government? Cannot the walls of a prison exclude it? Shall it be suffered to creep into schools and colleges, overspreading with its foul slime the noblest and most generous feelings of the young and susceptible heart?

It is in vain that we boast of the superiority of the age in which we live, so long as priests can enslave the minds, and rum-sellers defy the laws of a free people.

I would not speak one word disrespectful or derogatory to the character of Mr. Curtis, as a gentleman or a minister. But as *an officer* of our government, neither his words nor his actions have any sacred exemption from a careful, critical examination. If he can sustain himself in the position that he has taken, be it so. We have fallen upon strange times. The same sun shines upon the Massachusetts prison, that saw the Quakers hung, the Baptists banished, the witches immolated upon the altar of superstition. What else that glorious orb may yet be destined to witness—who can tell?

N.

Jan. 31. 1844,

From the Portsmouth Journal.

Prison Sketch.

On entering the office of a prison one morning, I found there with the warden a young man whose term of confinement had just expired. He had been in prison five years. The warden fitted him with a tolerably decent suit of clothes, partly from the man's former habiliments, partly from the prison supply,—gave him about a dollar in change, and then opened the door for him to depart.

While the man was waiting for a hat to suit him, I watched his appearance. I could see no sign of deep emotion. He appeared grave and thoughtful, but were it not for the convulsive twitching of his lips, you would have supposed him to be unmoved.

I asked the warden whether he thought the man would reform. He replied, 'He goes out with a determination to behave well, but so do nearly all I discharge; and it is very doubtful whether he keeps his present intentions. I have been warden for fifteen years, and have discharged many hundreds; I never knew more than a dozen in all, who gained a decent standing, and became respectable men. Some return to this prison, some go to others, but the greater part of them are never heard from.'

A poor chance, indeed, for our discharged convict! Let us follow him with the mind's eye, that we may discover what are the strong temptations that may again lead him astray.

He walks off rapidly, rather running than walking, with only one object—to get out of sight of the prison. He has a buoyant, elastic feeling. To be out once more in God's free air had been his hope by day, his dream by night, for five long years. This hope is now accomplished; he is a free man, his own master; he can go where he will.

Gradually his pace slackens; it becomes slower, and more slow; at length he stops. He leans against a fence, and tears burst out from his eyes, and roll down his cheeks; for the thought comes over him, 'Where shall I go? Who will be glad to see me?' After a while he slowly resumes his steps, and at length comes to where two roads meet—one leading into the city, the other towards the country. O that some guardian angel would direct him into the country road, for that is his only chance for safety! But no! He passes on, and is walking towards the city.

Slowly and thoughtfully he passes on; his head is bowed down, and partly from a feeling of degradation, partly from the long established prison habit, he hardly lifts his eyes to those he meets. That neat cottage on the right he passes with a sigh—it is no home for him. That large farm-house beyond—cannot that afford him employment and shelter? No; who will employ a discharged convict? And so he goes on, and the houses thicken on each side, but he has no claim on any; and the shops and stores of the city begin to appear, but he has no business with any of them; and the feeling of loneliness, of desolation, presses more and more upon his heart. He pauses, for a merry troop of school-boys rush by him, the very embodiment of hope and happiness. 'Ah! why was not I when a boy sent to school with the happy and prosperous?' and the remembrance of his neglected childhood, of his poverty-struck, desolate home, of his early mis-spent days, comes over him, and he again weeps.

Tired with his wanderings, dizzy with excitement and want of food, at the close of the day he goes into a low tavern. He must rest somewhere, and this, he thinks, is the only place he will be welcome in. It is full of tobacco smoke and the steam of alcohol, and is the resort of the vicious and the degraded.

Here he meets with an old comrade, and for the first time for years the words of kindness fall upon his ear; for the first time does his hand feel the warm pressure of a friend.

'Why so low and pining?' asks his companion! 'I should think you'd be merry for once, to get out of that accursed place. Come, come, you must drink with me.'

He left the prison determined to be a sober man. He might not have yielded to other temptation, but this appeal to his friendly feelings how can he resist? He longs for kindness and sympathy, and these he receives only from the degraded. The evening of the day which gave him freedom, finds him the associate of drunkards and criminals.

This description is imaginary, but in its essential elements it is *truth*.

S. E. C.

From the Philanthropist.

Radical Enterprises.

A correspondent of a New-York paper takes its editor to task, for asserting that the Skaneateles community had its origin in the anti-slavery enterprise, in which its 'noted men have been active and prominent champions.'

We see nothing very terrible in such charges as these. Mind can never cut loose from old prejudices and institutions, without running some risk. It can never set sail on the sea of reform, without being subject to be tossed by tempests, driven from its course, and occasionally, it may be, shipwrecked. But shall commerce fold her wings, and rot in port, because treacherous rocks and storms waylay the mariner's track? Some of the first disciples ran riot in their notions of the Lord's supper, and grew drunk, while partaking of the elements. Others perverted the prophecies, and, in full expectation of the near approach of the last day, ceased to perform the duties of life. These notions and fantasies had their origin, so said the conservatives of that day, in the so-called reform of this pretender, Jesus. The alleged excesses of the Anabaptists and Independents had their origin in the reformation—in the free spirit begetting that event, and begotten by it. And yet, on the whole, the great revolution has been productive of no small good. Doubtless, had there been no English revolution, no American revolution no discussion of the rights of man, there would have been no French revolution—at least not such a one as bears that name in history. The excesses attendant upon that change, in a certain sense, had their origin in the discussions, then prevalent, of the great cause of human rights. 'In a certain sense,' we say, for the true cause of those excesses is to be sought in the oppressions and brutalization of the mass, produced by the protracted, conjoint action of civil and spiritual despotism. And so, too, the extravagancies of some of the reformers of the age of Luther, are to be ascribed to the natural reaction of the human mind, which had been at once depraved and enslaved by centuries of ghostly tyranny; and which, in some cases, signalized the first moments of its recovered freedom, by the indulgence of its long pent-up corruptions. We do not intend in these remarks to pass judgment on the community at Skaneateles, but to obviate any objection to the anti-slavery enterprise, founded upon an alleged connection between the two.

The first effect of adhesion to a movement involving in its very inception, great fundamental principles, is the substitution of *Reason* for Authority by the mind of the adherent. Then spring up feelings of independence, self-reliance, and a disposition to examine into the claims of old beliefs. An institution is nothing to him, because it is established; he demands the *reason* of its existence. The dangers to which he is now liable, are captiousness, intolerance, contempt of what is established, merely because it is so; and, should he meet with persecution and obloquy, he will be apt to become wrapt up in his own notions, and launch out into excesses of speculation, and some times, practice. Such especially will be the dangers which will beset a mind, honest, ardent, not previously possessed of true philosophical principles, and long bound up by reverence for authority and old prejudices. But, to prevent this liability to extravagances on the part of individuals, must society remain stagnant—inquiry be gagged—a recurrence to fundamental principles prohibited—and the human mind be delivered, bound hand and foot, to the safe-keeping of the ecclesiastical or civil despot? Away with such conservatism! If it could carry out its policy, it would sink man into the nothingness from which God took him. Loosen every fetter—open every prison door—let every mind be taught to inquire fearlessly into the *reason* of every thing, and the day will yet dawn, when men will need no keepers.

From the Practical Christian.

Practical Non-Resistance.

We were lately told the following anecdote. Some years ago, a swaggering sailor was making his way along one of the streets of New-York, in a mood of merry mischief, when he chanced to meet an elderly colored woman on the sidewalk, who was very sedately smoking her pipe. Our tar, none too sober, thought he would give the old woman a touch of his politeness. So he turned aside, gave her a hunch, and knocked her pipe out of her mouth. He waited with evident amusement to see the poor woman gather up the pieces. But what was his astonishment to hear her meekly say—'God forgive you, my son, as I do!' His generous heart was instantly smitten with mingled emotions of shame and admonition. He rushed towards her, exclaiming—'God bless you, good mother! I am *sorry!* Here, take my arm; let me walk with you. I would not be ashamed to walk with you through the whole city!' Then recollecting that this token of respect would be useless to her, he suddenly drew out of his pockets an extravagant handful of 'change,' which he compelled her to receive, and walked on with a repeated 'God bless you, good mother!' Thus this despised negress, with a heart full of benevolence and self-control, overcame evil with good. With a meek look, and a single forgiving sentence, she subdued the spirit of mischievous insolence, touched the finer chords of a weather-beaten soul, secured a willing repentance, and drew forth an artless response of benevolence.

MISCELLANY.

From the Daily (Lowell) Herald.

Elder Thurston.

By request, we publish below a letter from Mr. Schouler, editor of the Lowell Courier, to Rev. Mr. Thurston, in explanation of certain transactions between those two gentlemen. It may be recollected by our readers that, at the time of the 'blow up' of the F. W. Baptist Corporation, Mr. Schouler published, in the Lowell Courier, some remarks reflecting upon the conduct of Elder Thurston in a money transaction between them. After the excitement of the occasion was in a measure over, Mr. Schouler gave to the latter the following written statement of facts connected with the transaction. It will be seen, that in this 'statement,' Mr. Schouler, in a manner that does honor to himself, as a man, exculpates Mr. Thurston from intentional wrong; and acknowledges on his own part an error of judgment, which, under the generally excited state of feeling at that time existing, was quite excusable. The opinion which Mr. Schouler first formed and expressed in the Courier having been generally read by this community, Mr. Thurston very properly desires that the following explanation of the circumstances should be made equally public. Therefore, as a simple act of justice to Elder Thurston in the premises, we yield to the request, and give our columns as a medium of its publicity.

LOWELL, July 24th, 1843.

ELDER NATHANIEL THURSTON:

Dear Sir—I cheerfully comply with your request, made a few weeks ago, that I would furnish you with a statement of the facts concerning a transaction between you and myself, which had its origin in a certain newspaper business in which we were both engaged, and which has been, by mis-statements, made a means of injury to you. So far as my recollection serves me, the facts are as follows:

Sometime early in the winter of 1842, I made a bargain with certain members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, (of whom you were not one,) to print a weekly paper called the 'Zion's Banner,' for which I was to receive a certain sum. The paper continued for several months, when it was discontinued, and the subscription list, as I understood, was purchased by the editor of the 'Sword of Truth,' Rev. Luther Lee. When I came to make a settlement with the proprietors of the Banner, I was given to understand that you was the person of whom I was to receive my dues. You could not pay me at the time in money, but gave me a note to the amount of one hundred and twenty odd dollars, which I endorsed and got discounted in the Lowell Bank. Several weeks before the note became due, I met you several times, and you told me that you was very short of money, and asked me if I would give you some assistance to make up the amount of your note, so that you could take it up when it became due. I invariably told you that I was much in want of money myself, but that if it was in my power, I would assist you as far as I could. When the note became due, you came into my office and told me you had been trying all day to get money enough to take up the note. I think you said you required about fifty dollars more than you had. I let you have what money I had about me, which was $25. You said that was not enough, but you would probably get the remainder made up before the Bank closed. You went out then, and I did not see you for a few days. In the mean time, I received notice that the note had not been paid, and that I must pay it as endorser. When I next saw you, I spoke to you about it, and you said you would endeavor to have it taken up, but you were harassed with other matters connected with the association which then began to make public talk. About a fortnight after which, a person came into my office and asked me if I had a note of hand against Elder Thurston for $25, borrowed money. I told him I had. He said he would pay it, as he had been requested to by you, and that it was money he owed you for the purchase of your watch. (I ought here to state that you had previously offered me your watch and some notes for security of the sum which you owed me, but I refused to take either.) The man paid me the $25, and I gave him the note of hand.

To secure the amount due me on the Bank note, I got an attachment put on some property of yours in Dracut, which has since been sold, and I have been paid all that was owing me by you, unto the uttermost farthing. These, I believe, comprise all the facts of which I now recollect of the question at issue, and here I might very properly conclude my statement. But I think that I ought to say a word more. Perhaps this private transaction of our own has been used to your injury by others as the matter became public afterwards. During the excitement which existed at the time, when every body seemed to be against you, my feelings were somewhat excited, and my prejudices partook of the popular color. But subsequent events have wholly changed my feelings in regard to you, and I believe that the same change pervades this community; and I now believe that your difficulties arose more from the head than heart, and that you found yourself involved in difficulties which you had never anticipated, and which were not wholly of your creation. It is not my desire to judge of the actions of others or to throw blame upon any individual in the community, but nevertheless, I feel it a duty which I owe to you, to say that I have not, at this moment, any more doubt of the honesty of your character and of your *intention* to do right than I have that the eternal justice of the Almighty, who knows the secrets of men's hearts, will mete to the guilty his dues, and the innocent be set free.

Yours respectfully,

WM. SCHOULER.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

ST. CROIX, Jan. 3d, 1844.

On our arrival here the heat was oppressive, the thermometer ranging from 80 to 90 in a very airy room; but for some time past the temperature has been very agreeable, being from 72 to 82. My expectations in regard to the climate of St. Croix have been very fairly realized, but in some other respects I am quite disappointed; I had supposed it rich and flourishing, at least as much so as any country could be with a numerous slave population. But evidences of its former opulence and its present poverty and decline every where meet the eye; the products of the island are less, by more than two-thirds, than what they once were. Last year the sugar crop amounted to but from 8 to 9000 hogsheads, and is estimated at about the same for the present year; formerly it was from 30,000 to 40,000 hogsheads.

I was told by a very intelligent gentleman, that the entie expense of the island, including interest on the debts of the planters, was not less than $700,000 per annum; and the whole revenue not more than $500,000.

On the death of a planter, it almost invariably happens that the estate has to be sold to pay his debts. I need not attempt to point out to you, what I suppose to be the causes of this state of things, as you are already better acquainted with them, probably, than I can be, from my short residence here.

ITEMS.

Murder in Lunenburg.—A letter is before us from a gentleman residing in Leominster, containing some additional particulars with regard to the murder perpetrated in Lunenburg, last Sunday evening, upon the person of Mrs. Houghton, a widow woman, residing by herself on the road from Leominster to Shirley Village. It appears that on Monday morning, a neighbor sent his son to her house to get her to wash for his family. The young man, on reaching the house, found the doors wide open, and Mrs Houghton lying dead on the floor. He immediately aroused the neighbors, and a coroner's inquest was instituted over her body. Drs. Parker and Streeter, from Shirley village, were summoned, and, on a post mortem examination, they found that she had five ribs broken on one side, and three on the other. 'Her neck was purple,' to quote the writer's language, 'where the villain had clinched her and choked her to death.' Every thing indicated a desperate struggle for life, and something dearer than life, on the part of the woman. Her dress was torn; her hair was scattered about the room; 'the bed was thrown all to pieces,' and the lamp broken on the floor.—*Worcester Citizen*

The late Murder in Clarke. (Mississippi.)—The negro who was arrested on charge of murdering the wife, brother and daughter of G. W. Gardner, of Clarke county, and afterward firing his house and consuming the bodies, has made a confession. We copy the particulars from the Aurora:

'He says that he went to the house of Mr. Gardner for the purpose of killing him, bearing in his hand a *lighted torch*, that he might not be deceived in the person—that when he came up into the yard he hailed—that Mrs. G. asked who it was, stating that Mr. G. was absent. He then approached the door of the house and pushed it open; that Mrs. Gardner jumped up and enquired who it was; that he then rushed in, and at one blow split open the head of Mrs. Gardner with an axe; that the young lad attempted to make his escape, but was also killed with the axe. After which he took a razor and cut the infant's throat; that he laid the bodies of the deceased upon the hearth, with the head of the child upon the breast of its mother. He then searched the house for money, (though he found but little) and set the house on fire.'

Distressing Casualty.—A young man named Cornelius Letts, aged 22 years, was drowned in Lumberland, a week or two since, while crossing a pond with his brother, on the ice, which broke with him. He clung to the ice, calling loudly for help, while his brother, who had reached the shore in safety, used every exertion in his power to rescue him, but in vain. A young lady to whom he was engaged to be married, and who lived near the pond, was attracted to the spot by his cries, and saw him sink to rise no more. It was their intention to be married the next day, when a clergyman who had been engaged to perform the ceremony came for that purpose, but instead of finding the bridegroom in his wedding garments, he found him a cold and lifeless corpse, enshrouded in the habiliments of the grave. The funeral sermon was preached at the very hour set for the wedding.

We have heard that the young lady has since become insane, though we will not vouch for this part of the story.—*Sullivan Co. Watchman.*

Narrow Escape—A Warning.—On Wednesday night last, Mr. B. F. Chandler of Augusta wrapped a large cotton comforter around him, and laid down on the sofa to read. He fell asleep, and on awakening found himself completely enveloped in flames. By uncommon presence of mind he put the fire out alone, but not until after the comforter was nearly destroyed, a light-stand, chair, and the sofa badly burned, and the pillow under his head half consumed. In the same room was his wife and three children asleep, and in five minutes time, so dense and suffocating was the smoke, all must have perished.

The Evil of a Bad Name.—The Philadelphia North American of yesterday states that a large factory of fine goods, that may employ 1000 persons, is about going into operation in Camden, N. J. which but for the insecurity of property, and the riotous tendencies in Philadelphia, would have been established in that city.

A minister advertises in the Emancipator for a situation. He says his anti-slavery views prevent his obtaining employment in the section of country where he resides, and would therefore be glad to receive application to preach for a longer or shorter period. If he had the apostolic spirit, he would not wait for 'a call,' but would go forth and preach—whether the people would hear or forbear. Fancy St. Paul advertising for a situation!

Large Boat. A steamboat is building at Cleveland of dimensions worthy of note. Her keel is two hundred and fifty-four feet long. On deck she will be two hundred and sixty-five feet, and will measure twelve hundred tons. Her dining cabin will be two hundred and thirty feet. She will be ready for service in course of the ensuing summer.

THE DEAD OF 1843. The New-York Evening Post says—Among the distinguished persons who have died the past year, we perceive the names of Robert Southey, La Motte Fouque, author of 'Undine,' Hahnemann, the founder of the homœopathic school, Cussimir Delavigne, the French poet, Foster, the author of valuable essays, Noah Webster, Washington Allston, Hugh S. Legare, Clevenger, the sculptor, Thompson, the founder of the Thompsonian system of medicine, and Dr. Channing.

Trade of the Lakes.—Mr. Giddings, in a recent speech in Congress, stated that the navigation of the Lakes in 1842 employed 17,851 sailors. The number of seamen employed in the same year in the trade with Great-Britain was 6015. The whole tonnage of the United States in 1842 was 732,775 tons. The tonnage at the same time on the Lakes, in the trade with Canada, was 202,746 tons, or one-third of the whole tonnage employed in the foreign trade of the country.

Effects of Millerism.—The Norridgewock (Me.) Workingman says: 'We are pained to learn that the wife of Mr. Solomon Luce, of New Vineyard, committed suicide last week, by taking laudanum, having become deranged by embracing the doctrine of Millerism. She was the daughter of David Pratt, Esq., and has left five or six small children, to lament her melancholy end.'

Sharp Shooting—Mr. J. S. Rice, of Hartford, Ct. a few days since, with one of Wesson's cast steel rifles, hit a target at the distance of 208 yards, seven times successively—the shots averaging less than an inch from the centre! So says the Times.

There are five editors in the present Congress, viz: Luther Severance, of Augusta, Me. Edmund Burke and John R Redding, of New-Hampshire, J. Wentworth of Chicago, Illinois, and Volney E. Edwards of Mississippi.

It is said that the amount of property bequeathed to Henry Clay, by the late Alexander Porter, Senator from Louisiana, is between $50 and 60,000.

THE HIBERNIA.—The steam ship Hibernia arrived at Liverpool on the 31st ult. after a passage of twelve days from Boston.

HORRIBLE. A correspondent of the Daily Chronicle, who signs himself 'A Father,' after narrating an outrage committed upon a young lady of Washington city, in the streets of Philadelphia, says:

'If the fear of hanging will not deter from the commission of crime, let us try *burning and disemboweling*, and such other tortures as will, at least, by their terror, preserve our females from outrage and ourselves from murder!'

Verily, we have come to a pretty state of things when the public press lend their columns to the introduction of such cannibal outrages upon humanity as 'racks, gibbets, burning, and disemboweling!'

Rare Books.

PRIESSNITZ on Water Cure; Sketches of Hahnemann's Discoveries in Neurology; Hahnemann's Chart; The True Scriptural Doctrine of the Second Advent, by Adin Ballou; United States Gazetteer, (latest edition.) For sale by
Feb. 16 3t BELA MARSH, No. 25 Cornhill.

Books and Stationery.

BELA MARSH

HAS taken the easterly part of the store recently occupied by the Anti-Slavery Office, where he will constantly for sale a general assortment of Classical and Miscellaneous BOOKS; also, Blank Books and Stationery, on liberal terms.
Dec 26.

J. T. HILTON,
Commission Merchant
FOR THE SALE OF NEW AND SECOND HAND
FURNITURE,
No. 12, BRATTLE-STREET,

RESPECTFULLY calls the attention of his friends and the public to his new Establishment, where he offers a general assortment of House Furniture lower than at any other store in the city.

PHYSIOLOGICAL BOOKS.

BELA MARSH, No. 25, Cornhill, (Anti-Slavery Office,) Publisher of Graham's Science of Human Life, has for sale all the other works written by the same author; also the various works from the pen of Dr. Alcott, and other eminent authors, on Physiology, in all a very complete assortment of works on that subject. Also, several instances of the execution of the INNOCENT. Facts are drawn from history and observation, and the entire scripture ground has been examined. The work is embellished with a fine engraving.—Price 62 cents.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

JUST PUBLISHED,

A NEW work on CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, by CHARLES SPEAR—and for sale by him at No. 25 Cornhill.

It contains a variety of thrilling and instructive anecdotes; also all the capital offences in every State in the Union; and a speech from O'Connell on the subject. Also, several instances of the execution of the INNOCENT. Facts are drawn from history and observation, and the entire scripture ground has been examined. The work is embellished with a fine engraving.—Price 62 cents.

DENTAL SURGERY.

Dr. S. BRAMHALL, Surgeon Dentist,

RESPECTFULLY informs the citizens of Boston and strangers visiting the city, who stand in need of the operations of a Dentist, that he may be found at his office, corner of Washington-street and La Grange Place, where all operations on the teeth necessary either for beauty or preservation, will be performed upon scientific and philosophical principles. Particular attention paid to cleansing and filling decayed teeth with gold, thereby arresting the progress of disease, and rendering them useful for many years.

Dr. B. having had many years practical experience, is confident that he can give satisfaction to those who may honor him with their patronage. Mineral teeth, from one to a full set, inserted in the best manner, and on the most reasonable terms. All operations warranted. Extracting 25 cts.; other charges in proportion.
8 BRAMHALL,
455 *Washington-st. corner La Grange Place.*

THE TRICOPHEROUS,
OR MEDICATED COMPOUND

IS now acknowledged by thousands, who use it regularly, to be the only remedy to prevent baldness, to restore the hair that has fallen off, or become thin, to prevent grey hair; to cure and remove every appearance of scurf and dandruff from the hair, and to keep it in the most healthy, soft and glossy state, free from all oily and greasy appearances. The virtues of the Tricopherous, or Medicated Compound are: 1st, Its bracing, strengthening, and clarifying properties. 2d, Its gently stimulating the action of the skin. 3d, Its producing and encouraging a vegetation in the bulb or root, and particularly in the pores where it receives the vessels and nerves, giving life and nourishment to the hair. 4th, Its equalizing the circulation of the fluids. 5th, Its freeing the skin from the effects of perspiration, scurf and dandruff, and disposing the hair to curl. 6th, And, its frequent use will preserve the hair in beauty and health to the latest period of life. For sale at A. S. JORDAN'S, 2 Milk, 2d door from Washington st.

GENTEEL BOARDING.

FOR RESPECTABLE COLORED SEAMEN.

HENRY FOREMAN,

No. 157 ANN-STREET, Boston.

RESPCTFULLY informs his seafaring friends and the public, that his old stand is conducted on the Temperance system, where he will use his best exertions to retain that share of the public patronage so liberally bestowed.

BOARDING HOUSE
FOR COLORED SEAMEN.

The subscriber begs leave to inform such colored seamen as may visit Boston, that he has opened an excellent Boarding House for their accommodation on temperance principles, at No. 5, Sun Court House (first house below the Bethel Church,) and will be happy to receive their patronage. No pains will be spared on his part to make their situation pleasant and satisfactory. The rules of the house will be in accordance with good order and the principles of temperance.

CHARLES A. BATTISE,
No. 5, Sun Court Street, Boston.
Boston, June 8, 1842. (tf)

Rev. Billy Hibbard's
VEGETABLE, ANTI-BILIOUS
FAMILY PILLS.

ALL who are acquainted with the maker of these Pills will do him the justice to say, that he is one of the last men to impose upon the public. The use of these Family Pills has been so often made manifest, that